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THE ROYAL VISIT TO NORWICH: ENTRY OF THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES INTO THE CITY.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY BURGESS AND GRIMWOOD.)

MR. BRIGHT IN IRELAND.

MR. BRIGHT's Irish campaign seems to have been a failure. In the first place—at the meeting, at least—he was addressing an audience which did not want remedial measures of any kind. An Irish Radical, like an English one, wishes to reform abuses "by the roots;" and in his opinion the root of all the grievances which weigh upon Ireland is to be found in its connection with England. The separatist feeling seems to be as widely spread as ever; and, though we may flatter ourselves that time—the great soother, but also the great avenger—will ultimately reconcile the Irish to our rule, we must remember that a good many centuries have now passed since Ireland first fell under English domination; and that the only effect of the severe and, as it was thought at the time, decisive series of measures known as the "Cromwellian settlement" has been to establish a Protestant and Anglican force in the country ready at any time to fall upon, and sufficiently powerful and well-organised to be able to crush, the Catholic and thoroughly Irish majority. At this moment the bulk of our Army is kept in Ireland; we dare not allow the Irish to form regiments of volunteers—remembering the experiment of 1798, and knowing what sort of work they would end by volunteering for; and if Parliament seldom occupies itself seriously with Irish affairs, that is owing, in a great measure, to a conviction that, whatever may be done for Ireland, nothing that can be done will ever satisfy the Irish.

There is no probability of Mr. Bright's proposition in reference to absenteeism being adopted, or even considered, in Parliament. His Irish audience would scarcely listen to it. The Irish proprietors would, of course, be opposed to it—as tending to diminish their influence by introducing among them a new and inferior class of landowners. Finally, it has been almost universally condemned in England.

Nevertheless, many attacks have been made upon it to which replies might easily be found. Absenteeism has long been recognised as one of the evils of Ireland; and though the imposition of an annual fine on absentee landlords (which was at one time a favourite suggestion with the Irish themselves) would be, for many reasons, objectionable, there would be no great injustice in empowering Government to buy the land of Irish proprietors resident in England at something more than its market value. Political economists raise their hands with horror at the bare notion of such a thing; but the true and unanswerable objection to the measure is a political one. After the Encumbered Estates Act, it is useless to pretend that we feel bound, in all our dealings with Ireland, to observe the strict laws of political economy. The question to consider is not whether any generally-accepted theory would be violated by the adoption and execution of Mr. Bright's measure, but whether it would or would not do good to Ireland, and what its effect would be on the relations between Ireland and the Government. Is it desirable, in the first place, to parcel out the land among a number of small holders? but, above all, is it desirable to put the Government in the position of a landlord in Ireland—to receive rents which the Irish cultivator so often objects to pay, and to expose itself to the odium which attaches to all landlords who seek to enforce payment by legal means? This second question can only be answered in the negative.

Unfortunately, there are good reasons for supposing that Mr. Bright went to Ireland not so much for the sake of Ireland as with the view of beating up recruits there for the great army of reformers which he aspires to lead in England. Ireland, however—perhaps wrongly—anticipates no benefit from a reform bill. It is, as some one present at Mr. Bright's meeting called out, "from the West, not from the East," that the Irish Radical hopes to obtain assistance. Those Irishmen who are still willing to look to the United Parliament for a redress of their grievances are for the most part Conservatives. It is very easy to sneer at Mr. Hennessy as a member of that party in the House of Commons which, according to Mr. Bright, has always been opposed to Ireland's just claims. But the fact is, the Irish politician who wishes to secure allies in England scarcely knows to which party in Parliament to turn. When O'Connell always voted with the Whigs, it is certainly strange that the most prominent of the Irish members, and those who claim more particularly to speak in the name of the Irish nation, should now vote with the Tories. Perhaps they remember that it was a Tory Government which carried Catholic emancipation, and that the Maynooth grant was and is opposed by a large number of Liberals. In so far that it is an oppressed country—not intentionally oppressed, but oppressed because it is ill-governed—Ireland finds friends among the Liberal party. But, being at the same time a Catholic country, it finds enemies in many so-called Liberals who are not Liberals at all in religious questions, and are prepared to uphold Protestant supremacy in Ireland at all hazards.

Considering, however, the attacks constantly made upon the Catholics by such Conservatives as Mr. Newdegate, and considering the insulting manner in which our Catholic fellow-subjects generally were spoken of on a recent occasion by the Earl of Derby, one would still think that Ireland had, on all points, more to hope from the Liberal than from the Conservative party. The Conservatives have of late years received much valuable support from Irish members; and hitherto the Conservatives have been able to plead that they were unable to do anything for them in return. It will soon be seen what fruits the union of Irishmen who demand reform for Ireland with Englishmen who refuse reform to England will bear. On one great point we should have thought Mr. Bright could not be very far

wrong. If the Irish, as Mr. Hennessy used to say Irish politicians maintain, want above all things a good tenant-right bill, they are not so likely to get it from a Parliament in which the landlords' interests are almost exclusively represented as from one which would include a certain number of members returned chiefly by the tenantry. If an Irish landlord is asked why he objects to a tenant-right bill—and that they do object as a class is notorious—the answer he makes is that he does not deny the right of the tenant to receive compensation for improvements, and that when that right is denied it will be time enough to frame a bill, but not until then. An English landlord on his side, and, indeed, Englishmen in general, say that, as no such thing as tenant-right is known in England, it cannot be necessary in Ireland. But in England all improvements are made by the landlord, and if a yearly tenant makes any additions to the houses, farm-buildings, drains, or fences, he receives compensation for them, in accordance with the "custom of the country," should he be called upon to resign his holding. The more moderate of the advocates of tenant-right in Ireland ask for no more than this; but they wish the right to be clearly defined and put upon a legal basis; and in their endeavours to attain this end they would be much more likely to receive countenance from a Parliament reformed in a democratic sense than from Parliament as now constituted.

THE NORWICH MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

THE Norwich Triennial Musical Festival of 1866 is now over, and although it has been very successful, still the results have not come quite up to the expectations which had been formed from the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Queen of Denmark, the Duke of Edinburgh, and the brilliant suite who attended upon them. Norwich, however, has had a very gay time of it, some of the incidents in the week's events being depicted in our Engravings.

THE ROYAL ENTRY.

The intelligent traveller, on his arrival at Norwich, ought, according to the local handbook, to be reminded of the description given of it by Fuller—or "old" Fuller, to give him his indispensable epithet. "Norwich," he wrote, "is (as you please) a city in an orchard or an orchard in a city." Most men would prefer, for continued residence, a city in an orchard; but on Wednesday se'nnight what Norwich really resembled was an immense fair. All the houses, without exception, seemed to be decorated—some with flags, some with bouquets, garlands, or other floral devices, and all with illumination lamps. Of course every shop in the town was shut; and equally as a matter of course every first floor along the line of procession of the Royal cortége was thrown open, the windows being blocked up with an eager crowd of loyal sightseers. The weather was magnificently fine; so that the female beauty for which Norfolk (in common with every county in England) enjoys (in the county itself) a particular celebrity was seen to great advantage, irradiated, as it always should be on such out-door occasions as this, by a moderate amount of sunshine. Volunteers of every arm, reinforced by a troop of dragoon guards from the regiment quartered at Colchester, paraded the streets, and crowds of people from all quarters poured into the town.

Desperate exertions were made to obtain good places for the great sight. Prices rose as the critical moment drew near. When it began to be whispered that the Royal party were about to pass through the first triumphal arch, fresh points of view were discovered, and the right of profiting by them quickly disposed of. Then the sound of cannon in the distance was heard, and immediately afterwards several enterprising visitors were seen hurrying to take up their position on the top of the cathedral tower.

The Royal cortége was accompanied from Costessey by an escort of dragoon guards and of Norfolk Light Horse, and was met at the boundary of the city, near the Helleston tollgate, by the Mayor and other officers of the Corporation, who accompanied it to St. Giles Gate. Then a procession was formed, in which the chief constable, a party of mounted police, a detachment of the 1st Norfolk Rifle Volunteers, a deputation from various friendly societies, several flag-bearers, a great variety of clerks (to the guardians, to the burial board, to the board of health, and so on), a large number of councillors, aldermen, and magistrates (four abreast), the city banner, the mace, the sword of justice, and, finally, the Under Sheriff and Sheriff, the Deputy-Mayor and Mayor, took part. These and other civic and county authorities were followed by an escort of the 1st Norfolk Light Horse Volunteers, which immediately preceded their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and suite. More volunteers, horse and foot, formed the *coda* of the procession, which was of a brilliant and imposing character. On arriving at the Guildhall their Royal Highnesses alighted at the great south door, and were conducted to the council-chamber. It was on the official cards of the ceremony that an address from the Corporation would there be presented by the Mayor, and another from the Bishop and clergy by the Lord Bishop, who was to be accompanied by the Chancellor, the Archdeacon, the canons in residence, the proctors for the clergy, the Rector of Norwich, and the registrar. All this, of course, was gone through. The procession was then re-formed, and the Prince and Princess were escorted, as before, to St. Andrew's Hall, where they were received in the most enthusiastic manner by the immense crowd assembled round the building.

In the meanwhile the musical performance had been going on for some time, but without obtaining much attention from the audience, who were probably not unwilling to hear Spohr's anthem, "Oh! blessed, blessed are they," followed by Mr. Costa's oratorio of "Naaman," but who were bent, above all, on seeing the Prince and Princess, and could think of nothing else until their arrival. Then, their Royal Highnesses having actually arrived, the public could still think of nothing else until their departure, which did not take place until the oratorio was at an end; so that, on the whole, the music of that morning did not—in fact, could not, under the circumstances—meet with all the attention which in itself it deserved. Spohr's anthem had, it appears, never been heard before at Norwich, and the amateurs of the town may well consider that they have not heard it even now.

OPENING THE VOLUNTEER DRILL-SHED.

At the close of the festival performance in St. Andrew's Hall, the Royal party proceeded to Chapel Field for the purpose of performing the ceremony of "opening" the drill-shed just erected by the Norwich volunteers. This is a very spacious brick building, which has been provided at an expense of about £1500, the amount having been raised by shares taken up by the volunteers, the intention being to pay off a certain number annually out of the Government capitation grant. The shed is built upon land belonging to the city corporation, who have granted a lease of forty years at a merely nominal rent. The shed appears admirably adapted to the purpose for which it is intended, one great advantage being that, notwithstanding the extent of the span (between 60 ft and 70 ft), the entire floor is clear of anything in the shape of pillars, the roof being supported by elliptical timbers resting upon the ground, close to but quite independent of the walls. Upon this occasion it was very elaborately decorated with innumerable flags and banners, arranged in military fashion, in addition to festoons of evergreens, &c. A temporary throne, upon a raised dais, approached by a flight of steps, was erected at the upper end of the building, the steps and the passage-way along the centre of the shed being covered with crimson cloth. On each side were ranged the Norwich battalion of volunteers, about 500 strong, under the command of Colonel

Black. Almost every foot of the remaining space was occupied by ladies and gentlemen; and, bearing in mind the enthusiasm which marked the whole proceedings, it will be readily imagined that the scene was very animated. The Royal party arrived soon after four o'clock, and were greeted at the entrance of the building with enthusiastic cheers by the crowds assembled.

Immediately they entered the volunteers on each side of their pathway presented arms and the band played the National Anthem. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales led the Queen of Denmark, the Princess being escorted by the Earl of Leicester. His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh arrived, after a brief interval, accompanied by his Equerry, Lieutenant Haig.

Colonel Black advanced to the foot of the dais and addressed the Prince of Wales as follows:—

In the name of the Norwich volunteers I approach your Royal Highness in the assurance of dutiful homage to the Throne and attachment to your Royal person. Knowing that your Royal Highness has ever felt a great interest in the organisation and efficiency of the volunteer force of the country, we have ventured to solicit you to do us the honour to inaugurate this building, which has been erected for military purposes by the volunteer riflemen of this ancient and loyal city.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales replied as follows:—

Colonel Black,—I have great pleasure in complying with your request to open this building, which seems exceedingly well adapted to the purpose for which it is intended. Allow me to congratulate you on the appearance of your men, and to say that I am delighted to hear from the Lord Lieutenant of your high state of efficiency. I hope and trust they will continue to increase both in efficiency and numbers.

His Royal Highness then added, in a louder tone, "I now declare this hall open."

Colonel Black thanked his Royal Highness for having so graciously acceded to their request in opening the hall; and

The Rev. F. Meyrick, chaplain to the battalion, offered a brief but appropriate prayer.

The officers of the battalion were then called to the front and presented to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess, who immediately afterwards quitted the building amid a round of the most enthusiastic cheers which will probably ever be heard within its walls.

PLANTING MEMORIAL TREES.

Before leaving Chapel Field the Prince and Princess planted two trees to commemorate their visit to Norwich. The site chosen for the planting of the trees was upon what is known as the "Old Basin." The tree planted by the Prince of Wales was a Wellingtona gigantea, presented to the Town Council by the Norwich district of the Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows. That planted by the Princess was also a Wellingtona gigantea, presented by Lady Stafford. Two silver spades, presented by the Town Council, were used during the ceremony. The Mayor and reception committee assigned to the members of the Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows the duty of keeping the line from the Crescent entrance to the Chapel Field to the space inclosed for the planting.

DOM PEDRO IV. OF PORTUGAL.—The inauguration of a statue to Dom Pedro IV., Emperor of Brazil and King of Portugal, took place a few days since at Oporto. The King, accompanied by his father, Dom Fernando, was present. The guard of honour was composed of ancient companions in arms of Dom Pedro, being the fifth battalion of Chasseurs, which he commanded. The municipality presented an address to the King, enumerating the events of which Oporto had been the theatre, as well as the starting-point of the political and liberal regeneration of the country. His Majesty replied in these words:—"The city of Oporto to-day raised to the memory of my 84 grandfather a monument which will attest in the future the gratitude of the country. These monuments, to which the will of the people confides the memorable events of their history, are noble testimonies of the respect and hope which the generations who pass away leave behind them, and which ought always to be venerated by those who succeed, because they incessantly call to mind the social existence and common thought of those who supported the same sacrifices and participated in the same glories. The city of Oporto, formerly the cradle of Portuguese nationality, and, in later times, the bulwark of its liberty, to-day consecrates that same thought with solemn pomp. This monument which is before us will, however, some day disappear, as the illustrious man to whom it is dedicated has already done. Time, which destroys everything, will wear away this bronze and the marble on which it stands. Neither the efforts nor energy of man can render anything eternal—renown alone can effect that result. But the memory of the king, the legislator, and the soldier will be perpetuated with that of the liberty with which he endowed his country, and with the testimony of the great civic virtues which adorn his mind." After the applause with which the King's language was received had subsided, the statue was uncovered, amidst the cheers of the people. Their Majesties then heard a Te Deum, and left in the evening for Lisbon. The sculptor, M. Calmels, a Frenchman, has been named an officer of the Order of Santiago.

THE FIFTH OF NOVEMBER AT LEWES.—On Monday the anniversary of Gunpowder Plot was celebrated at Lewes by a repetition of the animated scenes for which the town has been noted for several years. Throughout the morning the streets were perambulated by innumerable Guy Fawkeses, dressed up in various grotesque costumes; and about six o'clock p.m. the "proceedings" of the evening commenced. Shops were closed, cellars, &c., stopped up with wet straw, and many of the windows barricaded. Processions of considerable length were formed in various parts of the town, under the control of "The Bonfire Boys' Committee;" tar barrels and balls were run round the town by hundreds of "bonfire boys," fireworks of every description were displayed throughout the borough, bonfires were lighted—one large one in front of the County-hall—and effigies (stuffed with fireworks) of the Pope, Guy Fawkes, and other celebrities committed to the flames whilst "lord bishops" addressed the assembled multitudes at great length. The processions were headed by bands of music, banners, flags, &c., the persons composing the procession being attired in every imaginable style. The volunteer fire-brigade was in readiness all the evening in case of fire; but up to eight o'clock their services had not been required. The proceedings lasted till about midnight, and there were thousands of spectators, a great number coming from Brighton and other parts of the county. The police offered no opposition to the "celebration," although some few years ago an unsuccessful attempt was made to check it, on which occasion the A division of the metropolitan police was stationed in the town.

DISTRIBUTION OF CHOLERA.—The Registrar-General's return shows in what districts of England and Wales the 10,365 deaths from cholera in the third quarter of this year have occurred. No less than 8098, nearly four-fifths of the whole number, were in three districts—London, Lancashire, and South Wales. Of the 4714 deaths from cholera in London, three-fourths—3590—occurred in six registration districts—namely, Bethnal-green, Whitechapel, St. George's-in-the-East, Stepney, Mile-end Old Town, and Poplar districts, containing less than a sixth of the population of London. The entire mortality of these districts in the quarter far exceeded the number of births, and the mortality of this portion of London was much more than double that of the corresponding period in 1853. In Mile-end Old Town and St. George's-in-the-East the half the deaths in the quarter were from cholera. Of the 1872 deaths from cholera in Lancashire no less than 1603 were registered in the district of Liverpool and the adjoining district of West Derby, and of the 1412 in South Wales 1074 occurred in the four districts of Merthyr, Neath, Swansea, and Llanelli. In Neath more than half the deaths of the quarter were from cholera, and in Swansea and Llanelli two in every three of the deaths. So large a part of the cholera mortality was in these three quarters—London, Lancashire, and South Wales—that there were only six counties in the rest of England in which the deaths from cholera exceeded a hundred. These are Kent (extra-metropolitan) in which 2226 deaths occurred, chiefly in the parts near the course of the Thames; Essex, 435, of which 380 were at West Ham; Hampshire, 291–137 of them at Portsea Island, 98 at Southampton; and 98 in the Isle of Wight; 325 in Devonshire, the chief prevalence being at Totnes, Exeter, and St. Thomas; Cheshire, 150; Yorkshire, 240—the largest numbers at Goole and Doncaster. In Surrey (extra-metropolitan), Sussex, Durham, and Monmouthshire the deaths from cholera ranged between 50 and 100; in Middlesex (extra-metropolitan), Gloucestershire, and Lincolnshire, between 30 and 50. In Somerset the number was 26; Northumberland, 22; Worcestershire, 17; Staffordshire, 16; Cumberland, 14; Bedfordshire, 13; Cornwall, 12; Warwickshire, 11; Suffolk, 10; Norfolk, 9; Wilts, Derbyshire, Salop, and Buckinghamshire, 7; Herts, 6; Cambridgeshire, 5; Dorset, 5; Notts, 4; Oxfordshire and Leicestershire, 2; Berkshire, Northamptonshire, Huntingdonshire, and Westmorland had only 1 each; Herefordshire and Rutlandshire had none at all. Of the 9570 deaths from diarrhoea 2298 were in London, and 2466 in Lancashire. The London districts most severely visited with diarrhoea were Kensington, Bethnal-green, Whitechapel, Poplar, and Lambeth, each of which had above 100 deaths from diarrhoea. The provincial districts with above 100 deaths from diarrhoea were Liverpool, with 542; West Derby, 338; Manchester, 410 (but only 39 from cholera); Salford, 167; Chorlton, 192; Birmingham, 187 (but only 7 from cholera); Leeds, 166 (but only 9 from cholera); Bradford, 120; Sheffield, 117; Wigan, 116; and Bolton, 102. North Wales had but 32 deaths from cholera and 33 from diarrhoea.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor, whose health seems completely restored, reviewed a large body of troops on the racecourse in the Bois de Boulogne on Monday.

Much excitement has been caused in Paris by a statement that Russia was increasing her army. This feeling has, however, been somewhat allayed by the statement that the telegram exaggerated the fact, and that, instead of the levy of men being an extraordinary armament, it is little more than the annual recruitment of the army.

ITALY.

King Victor Emmanuel arrived at Venice on Wednesday morning, and the reception he met with was of the most magnificent and enthusiastic description. The crowd in the Piazza San Marco was so immense that the troops were unable to desfile before his Majesty. The King proceeded to the Church of St. Mark, where he was received by the Patriarch of Venice. A grand "Te Deum" was sung, the Patriarch officiating at the ceremony.

The *Perseveranza* of Milan states that the elections which have just taken place in the province of Trentino for deputies to the Tyrolean Diet have all resulted in the return of members favourable to the union of the Tyrol with Italy. "These deputies," adds the *Perseveranza*, "have declared their intention not to sit in the (Tyrolean) Diet. The inhabitants of Trentino have sent an address to the Venetians to be presented on the occasion of the entry of King Victor Emmanuel into Venice."

GERMANY.

The progress made in the preliminary measures for the organisation of the North German Confederation will, it is believed, enable the new German Parliament to assemble at the beginning of next year.

The Prussian forces in Saxony are ordered to be reduced to a peace footing. King John and his Court have returned to Dresden.

The Superior Court of Berlin has confirmed the decision of the ordinary tribunal acquitting Herr von Tweten of the charge brought against him by the Government authorities in consequence of his outspoken language in the Chamber of Deputies upon the administration of justice. This will be considered as a great victory by the Liberal party.

A Ministerial order has been published, introducing into Hanover the system of general liability to military service. This year's contingent of fresh recruits will be called out shortly, and then the troops at present on active service will be draughted into the reserves. The soldiers who have not served this year, last year, or the year before will be called out this year in the proportion required.

AUSTRIA.

The new Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Baron von Beust, has addressed a circular dispatch to the Austrian representatives abroad, in which he declares that he considered himself to have separated from his political antecedents from the day on which, in accordance with the Imperial will, he became an Austrian. In his new position he will bear with him nothing but the testimony of the regard of the deeply-honoured Prince whom he is conscious of having served with zeal and fidelity. Baron von Beust declares that the Imperial Government will remain faithful to the peaceful and conciliatory policy it has at all times pursued; but that if the unfortunate issue of the late war imposes that attitude upon the country as a necessity, the same reason renders it more than ever a duty on the part of the Government to jealously uphold the dignity of the empire.

The following are the chief points of the proposed reform of the Austrian military organisation:—Universal liability to military service; the army to be supplied with breechloaders; simplification of the commissariat regulation; a new audit system, and prompt examination of all military accounts; the improvement of the educational institutions for the army; the formation of officers' schools; strict examinations for those aspiring to become officers and staff officers; a new law of promotion; changes in the organisation of the general staff; reform of the military penal laws; alleviation of the burdens of the public Treasury by a considerable reduction in the number of officers, and the partial cessation of promotions; special ordinances with regard to furloughs and removal from active service.

An Imperial decree, dated the 30th ult., convoking the Hungarian Diet, has been received by the President of the Lower House, who has in consequence forwarded the requisite notice to the members. It is asserted that the majority of the members of the Hungarian Diet have resolved not to discuss affairs common to Austria and Hungary in the full sitting of the Diet until a Hungarian Ministry has been appointed. The Committee on Commons affairs will, however, continue its labours. Much excitement prevails in Pesth.

RUSSIA.

An Imperial manifesto has been issued ordering the Russian military and naval forces to be raised to their full strength by a levy of recruits throughout the whole empire, in the proportion of four to every thousand of the male population. The recruiting is to take place between Jan. 15 and Feb. 15, 1867.

Intelligence received at St. Petersburg from Bokhara states that the Emir had released the Russian merchants whom he had captured, but had again made preparations for defence. No communication being forthcoming from the Emir at the expiration of the term fixed by the Russians for a reply to the proposals they had made to him, the Russian Governor-General Kryschanski crossed the Bokharian frontier, and, after a siege which lasted eight days, took by assault on the 2nd ult. the fortress of Urtsube, capturing sixteen guns, four flags, and many prisoners. The Russians, it is stated, lost three officers and a hundred men killed and wounded; the enemy's losses were considerable.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

Great enthusiasm was displayed by the inhabitants on the return of the Hospodar to Bucharest. His Highness was met at the gates of the palace by the Cabinet Ministers, the Metropolitan, the Bishops, and all the officials of the city. The Prince afterwards reviewed the garrison and the National Guard from the balcony of the palace.

CRETE.

From Constantinople we have the official announcement that the Candian insurrection is at an end. All the Sphakiot chiefs and numbers of the insurgents have made their submission. The Christians, it is said, are to receive further concessions from the Porte.

THE UNITED STATES.

We have advices from New York to the 27th ult.

The political contest between the Conservatives and Radicals was being carried on with great rancour. Mr. Johnson is now anxious that the Southern States should adopt the Constitutional Amendment, and several of the prominent South Carolinians are aiding him.

Mr. President Davis's trial had been postponed till the spring. It is doubtful whether the unfortunate gentleman will live so long, as he is much prostrated by the effect of the mental and physical hardships he has undergone.

General Sheridan had issued an order to General Sedgwick to support the cause of Juarez in Mexico.

The sentence of death passed by the Canadian Court on the Fenian Colonel John Lynch and the Rev. J. M'Mahon is confirmed. The sentence had caused great excitement amongst the Fenians.

Much excitement existed in Baltimore on account of occurrences connected with the late elections. The police commissioners were accused of malversation in their offices in connection with the voting. This was made a party question between the Radicals and Democrats. The Governor of Maryland had commenced hearing the charges against the police commissioners of violation of the law in

their appointments of judges of the elections, and in denying the right of the ballot to registered voters. The Governor announced that he would examine the charges without partisanship. The commissioners, through counsel, denied the Governor's power to try or remove them. The Governor maintained that he had legal jurisdiction. The Governor had issued a proclamation warning all persons against forming revolutionary combinations inside or outside the State to obstruct the execution of the laws. The Governor's supporters and the Radicals who support the police commissioners were both arming and organising. The latter threatened to resist the commissioners' removal by armed force. The Pennsylvanian Radicals were reported to be preparing to march to the assistance of the Maryland Radicals, if necessary. The Governor's action would be supported in case of need by the Federal troops.

MEXICO.

Through the Atlantic cable we have a report from New York that the Emperor Maximilian has abdicated. The announcement is probably at least premature. The Paris *Temps*, indeed, states that General Castelnau, who is on a special mission to Mexico, has telegraphed to his Government that the Emperor is determined not to abdicate; and the *Moniteur* of Wednesday, in announcing that the transport-ships for the conveyance of the French troops are ready, adds that the Mexican Government, instead of having any anxiety about the departure of the French troops, is redoubling its efforts for carrying out energetically the task the Emperor has undertaken.

Advices from Matamoras to the 19th ult. announce that a severe battle was reported to have taken place near Saltillo, in which the Liberals had been defeated. The Imperialists were expected at Monterey.

INDIA.

According to advices from Bombay to the 13th ult., the subscriptions towards the Famine Relief Fund from Bombay exceed the sum of £15,000. The distress is now abating.

There are complaints of the scarcity of food from various districts in the Presidencies of Bombay and Madras, and grain riots have occurred at Kamptee.

The sheikhs of Koweit, in the Persian Gulf, have offered their township and harbour in free gift to the British Government as a free port, and will consent to hoist the British flag.

THE CHANNEL SQUADRON.

THE Channel Squadron, under the orders of Rear-Admiral Yelverton, C.B., left Berehaven on the morning of Nov. 1, in pursuance of orders from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty recalling it to England, the despatch-vessel Helicon being left to collect any supernumerary mails, and the gun-boat Pigeon proceeding to Queenstown for coals. As soon as the ships were well clear of Bantry Bay steam was got up to full speed in order to test by a good long run the relative speed of the ships. This experiment was a very pretty spectacle indeed. All these huge ironclads, ranged closely in a row, darted off simultaneously at a given signal, and strained their utmost to get ahead of one another. Interest was centred chiefly in the Achilles and Bellerophon, opinion being much divided as to which would prove the faster vessel; but the matter did not long remain in doubt; the first half hour settled the matter incontestably in favour of the Achilles, and at the end of two hours and a half she was a good three and a half or four miles ahead of every ship of the squadron. Soon after starting the Lord Clyde put on a strong spurt and shot half a mile ahead of the rest of the ships, and this distance she maintained (with a little alternate loss or gain) to the end of the trial; her peculiar plough-shaped spur, which, in a dead calm, seems to be a disadvantage to her on account of its heaving a huge column of water on her bow, on this occasion, when there was some little head sea, seemed to act very well, throwing the waves lightly and easily off. To this I attribute her having beaten the Caledonia and Ocean in a manner she quite failed to do (in the case of the former vessel) when testing speed, not long ago, in the presence of the Lords of the Admiralty. For about an hour and a half the Bellerophon held the third position; then the Pallas gradually drew abreast of and finally passed her by 200 or 300 yards. From the commencement to the end of the trial the Caledonia and Ocean raced neck and neck at a speed of from 11½ to 12½ knots, and for the last hour they were both of them abreast of and equal with the Bellerophon. The Hector came about three quarters of a mile to a mile after the Ocean and Caledonia. The Wivern did pretty well, considering the ship. She averaged about 10 knots, and at the end of the two hours and a half was about three miles astern of the Bellerophon; while the Research was of course a good distance astern of her again, for she has no pretence to being a steamer. From the foregoing it will be seen that, as steamers, the order of merit for the several ships is—1, Achilles; 2, Lord Clyde; 3, Pallas (though by very little); 4, Bellerophon, Caledonia, and Ocean about equal; 5, Hector; 6, Wivern; 7, Research.

On the evening of the 1st the Pallas was detached to Galway to relieve the Raccoon temporarily; on the afternoon of the 2nd Scilly was sighted, and on the same night the Ocean was sent into Plymouth on passing. On the 3rd circle steaming was gone through, the Bellerophon, Wivern, and Research sent on to Portsmouth, and the Caledonia, Hector, Lord Clyde, and Achilles anchored in Portland Roads.

The experimental cruise of the Channel Squadron having thus terminated, it may be instructive, and, perhaps, not uninteresting, to make a short résumé of the results arrived at and the qualities of the different ships composing it.

The squadron sent to sea during the autumnal equinox, purposed to test the various vessels most fully, has, with the exception of one vessel (the Wivern), been able to keep the sea for a period of thirty-two days in all weathers, without serious damage to any of the ships; and it may therefore be safely affirmed that we possess in our Navy what few foreign Governments can boast of having—viz., bona fide ocean-cruising ironclads fit for all weathers, of high speed, and carrying heavy armaments.

For the purposes of comparison, the squadron that has just been cruising may be thus roughly classified:—

1. Iron ships, broadside principle—the Achilles, the Bellerophon, and the Hector.

2. Wooden ships, iron-plated, broadside principle—the Lord Clyde, the Caledonia, and the Ocean.

3. Wooden ships, iron-plated, central batteries—the Pallas and the Research.

4. Iron ship, turret system—the Wivern.

Each of these classes represents a different system of shipbuilding process—some merit peculiar to itself, as also its special defects; but, comparing one with another as they have appeared on the late cruise, the vessels in the first class are indisputably the best; then probably the third class, and, lastly, the Caledonian and Ocean class. I leave the turret-system alone. The specimen sent on this cruise is not a fair one, for the Wivern is not a safe sea-boat; but there can be little doubt that the turret must ultimately supersede the broadside ship; and when a good seagoing turret-vessel, or a "turret and broadside" vessel combined, is found, our present huge floating castles will have to be laid aside; they represent too much wealth to be battered to pieces by one individual ship.

Taking the vessels individually, the Achilles must be reckoned as our finest war-ship afloat. In point of speed, no ship of the experimental squadron could come near her by one mile and a half or two miles an hour; regarded simply as a platform for working guns, she is by many degrees the most steady; and these are two qualities the want of which no smartness of sailing or superiority of armament in other ships can at all compensate for. She is a very strong vessel, and could easily bear a much heavier armament than she now has, although not perhaps so heavy a one as the Bellerophon. As at present rigged she is a poor sailer; but when her forecastle is shifted more forward and a light bowsprit put upon her her sailing qualities will be probably very fair. She spreads very little canvas for her great tonnage, and consequently it takes a small gale of wind to move her. A great defect she has, and one that cannot be remedied. I refer to her length; it prevents her manoeuvring with

rapidity at sea, and she could scarcely be sent into an enemy's harbour or close roadstead with safety. When, however, it is considered that to this very quality of length is probably to be attributed her speed and stability, one is, perhaps, scarcely entitled to find fault with it.

The Bellerophon is a very fine ship indeed. She does carry the heaviest armour and will carry the heaviest armament of any ship we yet have afloat. As a gun-platform she is only fairly steady. Those on board of her say she rolls very easily, and pitches remarkably so. This is doubtless correct, but it is, nevertheless, a fact, palpable to all the rest of the squadron, that in anything of a sea she raises her stern a good deal and most temptingly exposes her balance rudder to an enemy's shot. This is clearly a weak point in the ship, and in action might prove a very serious defect. For steering purposes I hear the balance rudder answers very well, and by it under canvas the Bellerophon manoeuvres without difficulty. As a steamer this vessel must be looked upon as a decided failure. On the recent full-speed trial it will be seen that both the Lord Clyde and the Pallas distanced her, and the Achilles beat her hollow. She barely kept her own against the Caledonia and Ocean, and, doing her best, she never exceeded 11½ knots. This for a vessel intended to realise 14 knots is a most disappointing result.

The Hector is a good serviceable vessel, but not, on the whole, a desirable vessel on which to model our future ironclads. She carries a good battery of guns, and could fight them well in reasonable weather. She is nearly as steady in point of rolling and pitching as the Bellerophon; but she is not so strong at the extremities as she ought to be, and she is a very expensive steamer, burning more coal than any vessel in the squadron, and yet only taking up the seventh place.

The Lord Clyde, Ocean, and Caledonia are very fine ships, but as fighting ships in anything like a heavy sea they would make a sorry show. They don't any of them sail as well as the Hector, nor manoeuvre as easily. They all roll excessively in a sea way, which must necessarily strain them very much, and is a great defect in them; in fact, an unsteady gun-platform is the greatest of all defects in a man-of-war. Of the three the Lord Clyde is the finest, for she is the most heavily armoured, carries the best bow battery, has a good ram, and is a very economical steamer. The Caledonia, too, is a good steamer, being less expensive than the Ocean; and, were her bottom not so foul, would have not unlikely beaten the Pallas on the late speed trials. She must be held to have beaten the Ocean; for, although that vessel is recently out of dock and has a clean bottom, she failed to gain a yard even in two hours and a half. All three vessels have powerful batteries of guns, and in smooth water would prove formidable vessels in a line of battle. As sailors, very little can be said for them; the Ocean is the best of the three, and the other two are both so poor that a comparison would be odious.

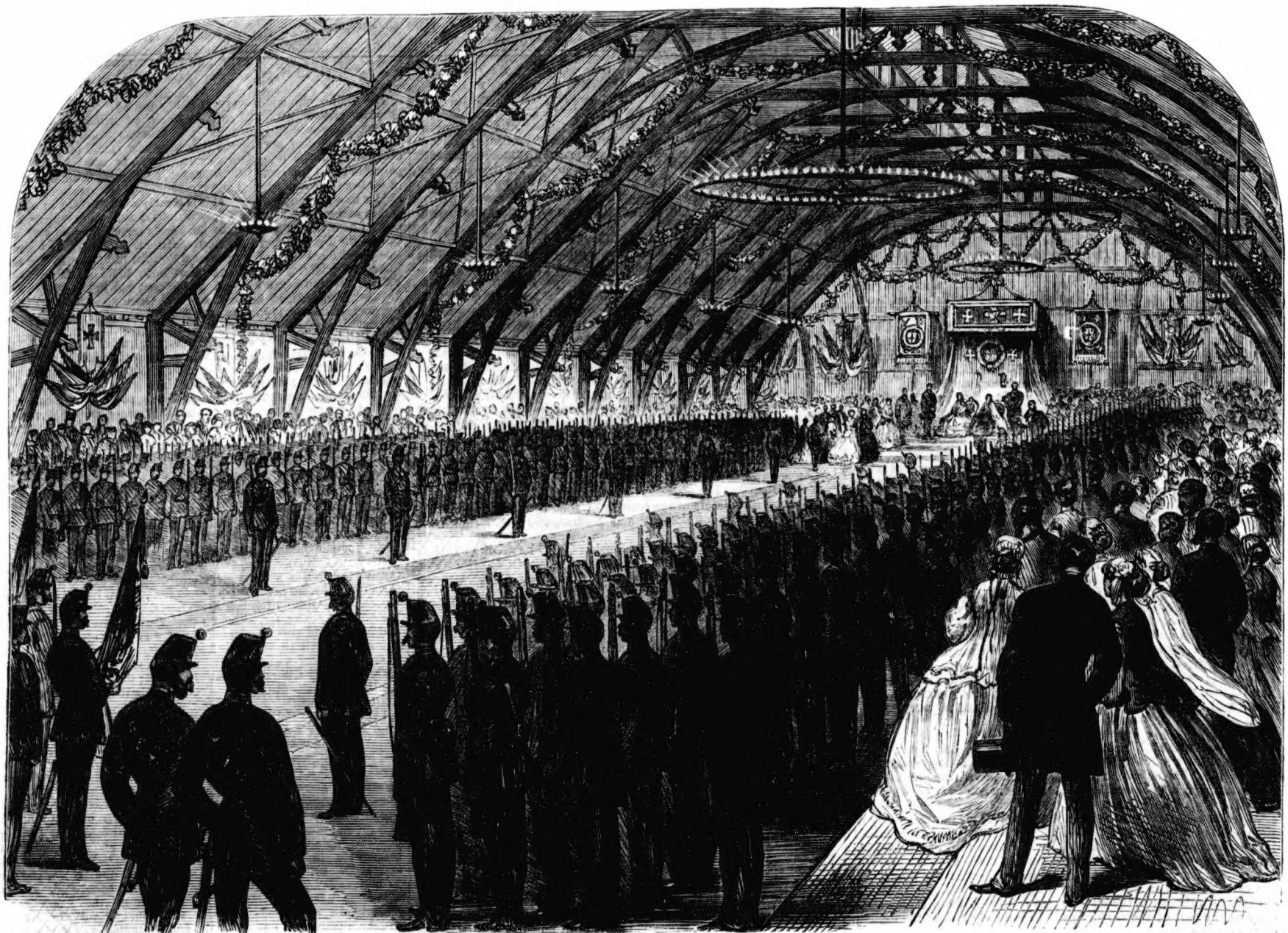
I come to the Pallas and Research. A very handy and desirable class of vessel indeed, particularly the former. For an iron-clad vessel the Pallas is a first-rate sailer—a dry and comfortable ship, and carries a heavy central battery (although only composed of four guns). She is a fast steamer, too; but, considering the small amount of artillery she carries for the steam-power exerted to bring those guns into action—viz., 600-horse power—not a cheap one. Moreover, relatively to tonnage, her 600-horse power ought to push her at a greater speed than she attains. I have heard that her rig is much complained of, and that the tackle and gear are quite inadequate to the size of the vessel. The system of bow and stern firing on board of her (and the Research also), as designed by Mr. Reed, appears to be successful, although a more unsightly means of obtaining that success can scarcely be conceived. In war she could hardly be expected to take a place in a line of battle, and so, probably, merchant shipping would be her *spécialité*—capturing the enemy's, convoying our own, collecting and transmitting intelligence, &c.; for all which duties she is well adapted. Of the Research little need be said; she seems to be a pretty good sailer, and carries a fair proportion of artillery. One thing is quite clear, that she is not fit to cruise with any squadron, for she would always be a clog on its movements (on account of her bad steaming), and of little or no assistance as a fighting vessel in the hour of battle. In war, hers (like the Pallas) would have to be the "merchant shipping" and "intelligence" departments, for beyond this her duties as a war vessel would have to be so very "special" that your correspondent is utterly at a loss to define them. Possibly her constructor, Mr. Reed, could do so.

Having thus touched upon each vessel individually, there remain but one or two general observations to be made. It is necessary to call attention to two great defects under which almost all the ships labour in common. The first is the want of proper scuppers for carrying off any water that may be shipped while fighting the guns in heavy weather (this is a point which demands the most serious attention of the Admiralty), and the second is the too light rigging of the ships for their tonnage, which unnecessarily endangers spars, and prevents a proper amount of sail being carried. Another defect inseparable to armour-plated wooden ships like the Caledonian and the Ocean is the loosening, to a certain extent, of the rivets keeping the armour to the ship's sides by the giving of the wood, caused by the great strain in rolling, and it is probable that all these ships will want their rivets looking to and screwing up to properly taunt them.—*Correspondent of Times.*

REFORM DEMONSTRATION IN EDINBURGH.—The trades in Edinburgh have resolved to hold a reform demonstration on Saturday, the 17th inst. Through Mr. McLaren, M.P., application has been made to the Woods and Forests for leave to assemble in the Queen's Park, and the answer is that no obstacle will be placed in the way of the proposed meeting. Reference was made in the application to the great reform gathering held there in 1832; but the present affair will be one of a very different kind, so far as regards the men who are to lead the proceedings. It will be a demonstration not of the "people," but of the working classes, and will consist of such processional array as can be got up, a few outdoor speeches, and a meeting in the music-hall.

NEW ARCHITECTURAL MUSEUM.—The Architectural Museum is about to be removed from the South Kensington Museum, the views of the council of the Architectural Museum and of the Department of Science and Art not agreeing. The council now announces that it has secured a site which it fully believes adequate for all its wants, and conveniently situated. It is a plot of ground within two minutes' walk of Westminster Abbey and the Palace of Westminster, and is approached from Great Smith-street. It does not pretend to be a fashionable neighbourhood; but the council flatters itself that its retirement will be accepted as one of its merits, and that it is situated in the immediate proximity to a quarter of London extensively inhabited and used by art-workmen. The dimensions of the plot of ground are upwards of 5000 square feet, and it is held on liberal conditions. Two members of the council have undertaken to act as honorary architects for the erection of a plain building; and for this purpose (liberally aided, though it will be, by the Department of Science and Art in the removal and re-arrangement of the collection) the council of the Architectural Museum require to raise the sum of £2000. Various members of the body have voluntarily promised £10 each, and the council now appeals to its other friends and the public generally, and we trust they will not do so in vain.

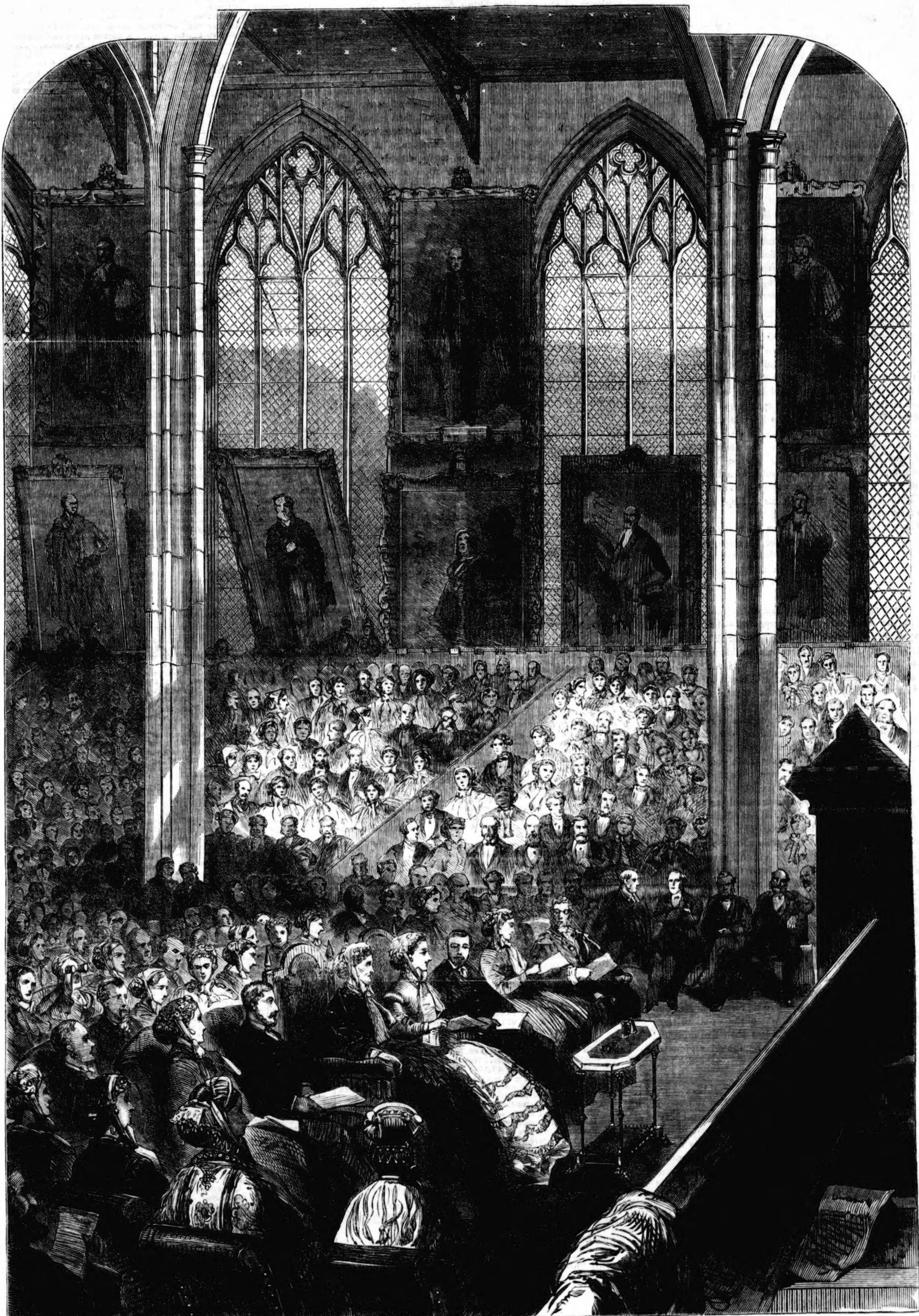
THE VOLUNTEERS.—The volunteers who lately visited Belgium have already commenced active measures for organising a return reception to the Belgians who may visit Wimbledon next July, and who are expected in very large numbers. Lord Bury, as chairman of the committee to be formed of the corps represented at Brussels, reports that the London and South-Western Railway Company have kindly consented to allow the committee meetings to take place in their general meeting-room, Hawkstone Hall, York-road; and his Lordship also places the Civil Service orderly-room, Somerset House, at the committee's disposal. The committee, in the first instance, is to be formed of the senior officer of the corps represented at Brussels, or an elected member; and, as most corps had officers there, it follows that the committee will be mainly composed of officers. As the whole volunteer force is deeply interested in this matter, it is expected steps will be taken to have all ranks represented in this body. The committee which organised the late exceedingly successful visit was composed of all the volunteers who went to the Tir National on the two previous years, with representatives from such other corps as cared to be present. No rank or corps was by this arrangement shut out, and the result was in every way satisfactory. The committee ceased to act when Colonel Lindsay took the command, and their organisation has been entirely in abeyance from the Saturday before the volunteers started for Brussels. There is a fund in the hands of this committee arising from the sale of tickets to those volunteers who went to Brussels, and the fund will, it is expected, be given in prizes for the Belgians to shoot for at Wimbledon, or form the nucleus of a fund for receiving the visitors.



THE ROYAL VISIT TO NORWICH: THE PRINCE OF WALES OPENING THE NEW VOLUNTEER DRILL-SHED.



THE ROYAL VISIT TO NORWICH: THE PRINCESS OF WALES PLANTING A MEMORIAL TREE IN CHAPEL FIELD.—SEE PAGE 290.



THE NORWICH MUSICAL FESTIVAL: PERFORMANCE IN ST. ANDREW'S HALL IN PRESENCE OF THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.—SEE PAGE 290.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1866.

ADMIRALTY MISMANAGEMENT.

It matters not which party—Whig or Tory—bears rule at the Admiralty, the same system of blundering obtains. Some time since a good deal of indignation was excited by the fact that the Victoria, an old-fashioned wooden sailing-ship, had been sent out as flagship to the Mediterranean. After the decided expression of opinion on that occasion, it was reasonable to expect that wiser counsels would have governed the operations of the Admiralty officials. More especially are we entitled to look for an improved system of action now, seeing that a change in the controlling power has recently taken place, and that that great naval reformer, Sir John Pakington, is now at the head of the board. But it is all the same. Whatever be the personnel of the Board of Admiralty—whether the Duke of Somerset or Sir John Pakington reign—the public interests and the national credit are equally sacrificed. It is desirable that we should possess, and should know the relative merits and defects of, specimens of all the different styles of naval architecture that have found favour either in this or in other countries. Most of these specimens we do possess; but some of them are allowed to lie idle and untried in our dockyards and harbours, while old, obsolete, effete models are sent to sea in their place. This course was followed in the case of the Victoria, above referred to, and it is again about to be followed in the case of the Duncan, which is expected to return from the West India station shortly with Sir J. Hope on the expiry of his term of command.

We have two ironclad vessels—the Minotaur and the Royal Alfred—both admirably adapted for flagships, yet neither of them is to be employed for this purpose either in the Channel Squadron or on the West India and American stations. These fine ships must lie idle and untried at home, while the Duncan, an old-style wooden ship, is repaired, refitted, and sent out again to do a duty for which she is quite unfitted in the essential of all requisites—that of being a fighting ship of war. And the only reason for this, apparently, is that wooden ships furnish more comfortable and agreeable quarters for the Admiral in command than ironclads do. So that it amounts to this—that the national credit for enterprise, its character for foresightedness, its repute for preparedness for contingencies and skill in naval architecture, are all to be sacrificed to the caprice or notions of comfort of the officers in command of our fleets. This was not the rule in the old and great days of the British Navy, when personal considerations were never allowed to stand in the way of duty or of public advantage. We are anxious that the men who man our fleets—from the oldest Admiral to the youngest boy—should be made as comfortable as the efficient discharge of their duties will permit. But efficient discharge of public duty must always take precedence of personal comfort; and if the one be incompatible with the other, there can be no difficulty in deciding which should give way; at all events, we know which would have been first thought of by Nelson and his comrades. It is fighting-ships, and not mere floating palaces, we should think of sending to foreign stations. It is the naval power of Great Britain, not her luxurious habits and the perfection of her appliances for indulging them, that our squadrons should represent. That does not seem, however, to be the notion which governs the authorities at the Admiralty. How the shrewd Yankees, who have recently been exhibiting to European eyes their latest and most perfect notion of a war-ship—the Miantonomah—must laugh at the idea of our sending out to represent our Navy on their coasts an old wooden craft which the worst of their turret-ships would knock to pieces in less than five minutes! Will common-sense ever penetrate the benighted regions of the Admiralty, we wonder?

DARK PLACES OF THE METROPOLIS.

THE garrotting season has commenced. The thieves of London have opened the winter campaign of street robbery; and, with the skill or instinct which usually distinguishes them, have chosen the dark places of the metropolis as the scenes of their operations. They know how to adapt means to ends; their object is plunder, and they employ force and darkness as their instruments. Not so wise in their day and generation are the guardians of the public safety. To enlighten the dark places of this City, and strengthen the weak, in the prospect of an attack, seems to constitute no part of their tactics. "Who so dull but might have guessed" that all the hornets' nests of thieves and bludgeon-wielders would have been up in arms so soon as the winter darkness set in to favour their operations? And yet this is precisely the thing which our parish and police authorities have not guessed. The vicinity of Blackman-

street, Borough, is notoriously the haunt of some of the most desperate ruffians in London. Lant-street is well known—has long been well known—as the favourite resort of these ruffians; and yet Lant-street and the point where it debouches upon Blackman-street—a leading thoroughfare—is one of the "dark places" which seem specially preserved for the convenience of the garotte-robbing fraternity. At the end of Lant-street the thief takes his stand, robs the first eligible passer-by, and seeks concealment in the darkness which the authorities have left to brood over the spot. There is little danger of detection; the thing can be done "as secure as sleep;" and the thieves know it, and are bold in consequence. Darkness is the condition most favourable to their operations, light the cheapest and most effective defence of cities. There are more "dark places" in London than Lant-street, Borough, and more street thieves than those who make that spot the scene of their depredations. A lamp or two at Lant-street would have made either prevention of robbery or recognition of the robbers easy; and a lamp or two in other dark places we could name would be equally beneficial for the same ends. We do not mean to say that lamps are all that may be needed for the protection of the public from the attacks of street thieves; but they are valuable auxiliaries. Let extra police be stationed in dangerous regions, by all means; their services will be of advantage both for the prevention of theft and the capture of thieves. But let all the dark places be thoroughly lighted up; "a little charge will do it;" and we shall thus have secured at least one efficient means of protection for the honest wayfarer against the night-prowler. As we have said, the garrotte season has commenced; winter is approaching; the season of darkness is at hand. Let our public authorities bestir themselves; let them seek out the dark places and erect lamps there. Let us have no neglected Lant-streets—no spots where rogues can "steal as in a castle, cocksure;" none where criminals can take refuge or robbers be in safety.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN AND THE ROYAL FAMILY have returned to Windsor from Balmoral.

THE PRINCE OF WALES arrived in Potsdam on Sunday morning, and was visited by the King of Prussia. Later in the day he proceeded to St. Petersburg.

THE HEALTH OF THE EMPRESS OF MEXICO is said to be greatly improving.

THE QUEEN OF THE BELGIANS has expressed an intention of visiting next year's camp at Wimbledon. Her Majesty will be at that time on a visit to Windsor.

THE QUEEN OF SPAIN was kissed at one of the Madrid theatres a few nights since. Her Majesty rose immediately and left the house.

THE "ATTEMPT ON THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA'S LIFE," it is said, was all a mistake of the English officer who arrested the supposed regicide, who has been proved to be innocent, and set at liberty.

PRINCESS DAGMAR, on the occasion of her approaching marriage with the Grand Duke, heir to the Russian throne, has resolved to present a dowry to each of eight young Danish girls without fortune who may be married in the course of the next three months.

PRINCESS ALICE OF HESSE-DARMSTADT has recently presented about £500 towards the fund for the erection of a lunatic asylum at Darmstadt, of which she contributed herself one fifth, and the remainder was collected in England.

GENERAL PEEL has, it is said, decided upon granting a substantial reward to the family of the late Mr. Snider, the inventor of the method for converting the Enfield rifles into breech-loaders.

LORD JUSTICE CAIRNS took his seat in the Court of Chancery on Saturday morning. This event excited great interest in the profession. Sir Hugh was offered a peerage, on his elevation to the Bench, but declined the honour.

CAPTAIN COWPER PHIPPS COLES, R.N., has been recommended to her Majesty by Sir John Pakington for the civil commandanship of the Order of the Bath.

DR. A. H. HASSALL, the eminent physician and analyst, has been granted a pension from the Civil List in recognition of his public services.

LORD WESTBURY is presiding in the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and will sit there day by day until all pending cases have been determined.

SIR WILLIAM THOMSON has been presented with the freedom of the city of Glasgow, in consideration of his services in connection with laying the Atlantic cable.

"MUGBY JUNCTION" is the title of the Christmas number of *All the Year Round*, to be published early in December.

LORD CRANBOURNE has offered to Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald, the late member for Horsham and Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in Lord Derby's Administration of 1858-9, the governorship of Bombay, and the offer has been accepted.

STAFF COMMANDER MORIARTY, who distinguished himself during the laying of the Atlantic cable, has been recommended for the honour of a commandanship of the Bath.

PEKIN has been without either rain or snow for eleven months, and the greatest distress prevails in consequence in that part of China.

THE DIRECTORS of the Atlantic Telegraph Company lately decided to reduce the tariff of messages on their line from £20 to £10.

THE IRON-PLATED RAM AFFONDATORE, which sank, two months ago, in the harbour of Ancona, has been raised.

THE DAUGHTER (aged twenty-eight) of a clergyman at Faringdon has eloped with her father's groom.

THE ADMIRALTY AND WAR OFFICE have finally resolved to adopt Major Palliser's chilled shot and shell for both services.

THE HEALTH OF COUNT DE BISMARCK is said to be such as to require further leave of absence. The Count intends returning to Berlin, letters state, for a few days, and then will again take his departure.

THE FUND for the erection of the new buildings of Glasgow University now amounts to £82,450, and £282,550 are still required.

THE DEATH OF MR. G. LORT PHILLIPS, M.P., has created a vacancy in the representation of Pembrokeshire. He was a Conservative in politics, and the seat is likely to be contested by the Liberal party.

LORD DERBY has granted a literary pension of £40 per annum to Mr. Robert Young, as a reward for his literary merit and an acknowledgment of his services as a historical and agricultural poet. Mr. Young, it is stated, is an extreme partisan of "true-blue" Protestant ascendancy notions.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE has been visited by upwards of twenty million persons during the eleven years and a half it has been opened to the public, making an average of over five thousand per day.

THE JESUITS are no favourites apparently in Austria. The Judiciary section of the Municipality of Vienna has resolved to petition against the admission of the followers of Loyola into the city.

MAJOR CHARLES BEALES (an Englishman), of the Austrian cavalry, has been made, by the Emperor of Austria, a Knight of the Iron Crown, for gallant conduct in the recent battles. He was severely wounded. The Major is a nephew of Mr. Edmund Beales.

ESSEN, in Rhenish Prussia, will send to the Paris Exhibition a gigantic gun. This piece of artillery will weigh 17,500 kilos. (1000 kilos. are equal to one ton); discharges a cast-steel projectile weighing 500 kilos., with a charge of 60 lb. of powder. The projectile is a kind of conic cylinder.

VICE-CHANCELLOR KINDERSLEY, it is expected, will soon retire to make room for Mr. Malins, Q.C., who did not get in for Wallingford at the last election, but who has done his party good service. Chief Justice Erle is stated to have sent in his resignation; and it is added that he is to be succeeded by Sir W. Bovill.

THE SUBSCRIPTION in the City for the sufferers by the late fire at Quebec amounted, on Wednesday, to about £7150.

THREE NEW PATENT STEAM FIRE-ENGINES, constructed by Shand, Mason, and Co. for the Metropolitan Fire-Brigade, have been added to the plant belonging to the board, and are to be stationed in various parts of London for the further protection of the metropolis from fire.

TWO OF THE STUD OF GIRAFFES at the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park, were unfortunately destroyed, on Tuesday night, by a fire which broke out in their "house" shortly after the visitors had left. It is supposed that some one had inadvertently thrown a broken fuze into the straw, which afterwards was ignited by the tread of the animals.

ONE OF THE LARGEST TAKE OF HERRINGS perhaps ever known was secured in Dublin Bay on Sunday night. A fleet of about one hundred smacks were engaged at the work, and all secured such quantities that great difficulty arose in getting in the nets.

RISK-ALLAH, who has just been acquitted at the Court of Assize at Brussels, paid 20,000f. to his two advocates. The Belgian one, M. Graux, received 5000f., and M. Lachaud 15,000f. The whole trial will cost the accused, the calculation is, 50,000f. After his liberation Risk-Allah went to the Hotel de Flandre, and in the evening dined at the table-d'hôte.

THE SHIP'S COMPANY of H.M.S. Pyrades, which has just returned from the North American and West Indian station, have kindly sent a donation to the National Life-boat Institution of £2. 8s., being part of the balance remaining from an accident fund, to which they had on board the ship subscribed.

MR. JUSTICE PAGE was renowned for his ferocity upon the bench. While going the circuit a facetious lawyer, named Crowe, was asked if "the Judge was not just behind?" "I don't know," said Crowe, "but, if he is, I am sure he was not just before."

MR. GEORGE BULLEN, for many years senior assistant in the library of the British Museum, has been appointed assistant keeper and superintendent of the reading-room. Mr. Bullen succeeds Mr. Watts in the presidency of the reading-room, and has long been known in the literary world for his great bibliographical attainments, as well as an able contributor to many of our leading journals.

THE APPOINTMENTS of Judge Advocate of the Fleet and Counsel to the Admiralty, which became vacant by the sudden death of Mr. Phinn, Q.C., have been conferred on Mr. J. W. Huddleston, Q.C., and member for the city of Canterbury. Mr. Huddleston is a bENCHER of Gray's Inn, member of the Council of Legal Education, and goes the Oxford Circuit, of which he is the leader.

SYDNEY SMITH'S favourite daughter Saba, Lady Holland, has just died. She married, in 1834, as his second wife, Sir Henry Holland, M.D., D.C.L., F.R.S., the eminent physician, Physician in Ordinary to the Queen since 1852, and has had issue two daughters by him. Lady Holland was the author of the well-known biography of her father, the witty canon of St. Paul's, and possessed no slight share of his humour.

GARIBALDI has just written the following letter to M. Lorigiola, who had communicated to him a plan for a rifle meeting at Padua:—"My dear Lorigiola,—Bravo! I compliment you, and wish you every success in the realisation of your project. The people should be made to understand, once for all, that the carbine ought to be the gospel of the nation; and that only when well exercised in the use of that arm will they be able to say proudly, 'We are Italians!' Continue, and I will aid you with all my power."

DR. W. BYRD POWELL, a phrenological enthusiast in America, bequeathed his head to a widow lady who had been a favourite pupil. A Kentucky Court ordered the head to be severed and given to the lady, which was done. The widow, with this odd dowry, was soon after married to Professor A. T. Kickeler, who is now lecturing in New York on physiology, and illustrating his subject with Dr. Powell's head.

A COLUMN OF GRASSHOPPERS, 150 miles long and one hundred deep, is sweeping across Kansas. Wherever they go they leave the vegetation only in skeletons. A detachment that went to Salt Lake was completely devoured by myriads of white birds, which the Mormons declare to have been due to Brigham Young's miraculous power.

A GRAND RACE ACROSS THE ATLANTIC is to be one of the "sensations" of 1867. The American builders are hard at work on clippers of both wood and iron; and at least forty magnificent yachts are expected to start simultaneously from New York for Havre. Amongst the competitors will be Mr. James Gordon Bennett, jun., manager of the *New York Herald*, for whom one of the first-class American shipbuilders has now on the stocks a yacht of 200 tons.

AN EXPLOSION OF FIREWORKS took place, on Monday night, in Central-street, at the corner of Gee-street, St. Luke's. It appears that a "Cheap Jack" was selling fireworks, and, in order to give due effect to his harangue, he fired a squib and threw it into the air, when the sparks fell upon the cartload of combustibles, and the whole exploded, blowing out the side of the cart and scorching "Cheap Jack."

"TREASURE" TROVE.—During the past week, the ostler at the Woolpack Inn, Salisbury, handed over to his mistress a bag of "notes" and "gold" which had been found in the stable. The bag was found to contain thirty-one sovereigns, two £10 notes, and a cheque for £79. On examination, however, it was discovered that the coins and the notes were "flash," though both were tolerably good imitations of the genuine articles. The cheque, however, appeared to be a good one. It is drawn upon the London and County Bank, and payable at Canterbury.

PAYING DEAR FOR A KISS.—At the Bicester Petty Sessions, before a bench of Oxfordshire magistrates, John Tompkins, of Finmere, labourer, was charged with having, on the 28th ult., unlawfully assaulted Ruth Kirby, of the same place. Complainant said that, on the previous Sunday, she was walking to church, when Tompkins went up to her and kissed her. Defendant said he was very sorry, but he would never do it again. The chairman observed that he must pay for his indulgence to the tune of 11s. 6d. fine and 8s. 6d. costs, or undergo fourteen days' imprisonment.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS IN THE TEMPLE.—The display of chrysanthemums in the gardens of both the Inner and Middle Temple promises to be an excellent one this year. There is a great variety of the "incurved," or those having the petals turned inwards; the "reflexed," with the petals curved in the opposite direction; and the "anemone flowered," with a guard or fringe of reflexed or quilled petals and a centre like German aster. They are of almost every conceivable variety of size and colour, and the pompons seem to have been cultivated with great care. The best specimens in the Inner Temple Gardens are ranged along the north side, and are carefully protected by canvas; in the Middle Temple garden they are, for the most part, on the east side and near to the river. Mr. Broome and Mr. Dale, the head gardeners, are tending their flowers with watchful care, and will in due time admit the public to an inspection of them.

MR. BRIGHT AND EDUCATION NEAR WINDSOR.—The Bishop of Oxford writes that when he read, in the report of Mr. Bright's speech at Glasgow, his example of the "helpless poverty and ignorance" of the southern labourers taken from a parish "within six miles of the Royal castle," he wrote to him and requested that, as the scene of this ignorance must be in his diocese, he would give him such information as would enable him to follow up the case. This he did that he might learn—first, whether the alleged ignorance existed; and, secondly, if it did, whether it was attributable to any neglect of the labourers, or at "Windsor Castle," or by the "swarming lords and squires and established clergy," or in any way to the "miserable failure of the ruling class, which revels in power and wealth, while at its feet lies a multitude which it has neglected." He appends a letter which he thinks gives complete answer to these insinuations; and, perhaps, it might be found that a close search into the many similar allegations which England, Scotland, and Ireland have recently heard from the same lips would utterly expose them as Mr. Pearce's letter seems to expose the "Windsor Castle" story. If truth is stranger, perverted truths are often more misleading than fiction. The letter in question is signed "Beauchamp Pearce," and it supplies three facts—that so late as the year 1850 this heath was a desolate region, very thinly populated, and without school or church; that both these buildings have been subsequently erected on lands freely granted by the Crown; and that they are mainly supported by the "lords, squires, and established clergy" who "swarm" in this neighbourhood.

LORD MAYOR PHILLIPS.—On Tuesday evening the principal citizens of the Ward of Farringdon Within, which the Lord Mayor has long represented in the Court of Aldermen, and which is one of the wealthiest in the city of London, entertained his Lordship at dinner, with the Lady Mayoress and some of the members of his family, at the hall of the Stationers' Company, in Ludgate-hill, and presented him with a magnificent testimonial of the value of about £700. It consists of a dessert service in the classic style, embracing an oblong plateau nearly 4 ft. in length, with parallel sides richly ornamented and supported by eight antique winged swans. Upon that is placed an elaborately-executed centrepiece, of an architectural character, quadrangular in form, and bearing the arms of the city of London, those of the Lord Mayor, and an emblematic design, illustrative of art, science, and commerce. It also bears an inscription to the effect that it was presented to the Lord Mayor of London (Alderman Phillips) by the inhabitants of the ward of Farringdon Within, in testimony of public services rendered to the ward during a period of nineteen years, and especially to mark their sense of the honour he had conferred upon the citizens by the dignified, independent, and exemplary manner in which he had discharged his duties as the chief magistrate of the city of London. At the dinner which followed the presentation the chair was occupied by Mr. William Leaf, of Old Change, one of the oldest and most prosperous of the citizens of the ward, supported by Mr. William Gilpin, treasurer of Christ's Hospital; the Master of the Stationers' Company, Deputy Virtue, Deputy Charles Reed; the Rev. Michael Gibbs, M.A., Vicar of Christ Church, Newgate-street; Captain Moriarty, C.B., and other gentlemen. The Lady Mayoress, Mrs. William Leaf, and M^r. Barnet, daughter of the Lord Mayor, occupied seats on the right and left of the chair.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

SIR JOHN PAKINGTON is in difficulties. He announced to the House, just before it broke up for the vacation, that he was sorry to discover that the naval reserve is in an unsatisfactory state—in fact, that we have little or no navy reserve; and he left us all with the impression that he would set about remedying this grievous defect. In short, that he would create a navy reserve. And I have no doubt he meant to do it. Indeed, he got the Chancellor of the Exchequer to propose a supplementary vote of some quarter of a million for this purpose, thus sweeping away Gladstone's surplus. But what is a quarter of a million, when a single ironclad costs more than that? However, he could get no more, because the Exchequer was empty. There came, however, an opportunity the other day, as Sir John thought, to obtain a fine frigate already built and all but ready for sea. It was built for the Turkish Government. The Turkish Government, however, is in pecuniary difficulties; cannot pay the interest on its debt; and when the time came to deliver up the ship the Grand Seigneur could not find "the ready," and, as the builders would not let it go without, the frigate was for sale. Here was a fine chance for Sir John: a noble frigate already built. He would step in and buy it, and add it to the reserve; and, as to the money, of course, in such an emergent case, the Chancellor of the Exchequer could not possibly refuse to advance that. But, alas! when applied to, the Chancellor of the Exchequer sternly refused. "I have not the money," he said. "But you can draw upon future estimates?" "No," was the answer from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, thinking possibly that it would never do to inaugurate the Government by raising the wind in this unconstitutional manner. Moreover, he would look upon this business from a standpoint different to that of the First Lord. Sir John wants a reserve; the Chancellor of the Exchequer wants a surplus; Sir John wants to glorify his department; the Chancellor of the Exchequer his. Besides, it is not unlikely that Disraeli does not participate in Sir John's ardour. We remember his speech about bloated armaments. However this may be, he pleaded no ready money and sturdily refused to "do" a bill; and so poor Sir John had to depart, baffled and mortified. But some of your readers may ask, "Could not the builders wait a few months on condition that they should receive interest on the purchase-money? Surely so good a customer as the English Government was worth waiting for?" Ay! but, unfortunately, there was another customer in the market—to wit, the Prussian Government, which, strangely enough, always has ready money. And, the English Government having refused to buy the ship for cash down, said Prussian Government snapped it up. Sir John, it is said, is much mortified by this affair, and thinks himself an ill-used man. There can, though, be no doubt that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was right. Nothing is clearer than this, that to spend money before the expenditure is authorised by Parliament is unconstitutional, and that only a very strong emergency can justify such a practice.

Sir William Earle, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, is about to resign; and it is said that Sir William Bovill, the Solicitor-General, is to have the place. The salary is £7000 a year—a very nice income for a gentleman only fifty-two years of age to retire upon. If Sir William Bovill should be elevated to the Bench, who will be Solicitor-General? There is a scarcity of practising barristers on the Conservative side of the House. There is Mr. Huddleston and Mr. Dowdeswell. My mind's eye, running over the Conservative ranks, fails to discover anyone else. But there may be others. What if Huddleston should get the appointment? He will indeed be a fortunate man if he should leap into such a position after a Parliamentary life of only two years. Fancy it, all ye who know Mr. Huddleston. "Sir John Walter Huddleston, her Majesty's Solicitor-General!" "Make way for her Majesty's Solicitor-General!" One can hardly fancy it. But necessity hath no law; and, failing Dowdeswell, Mr. Huddleston seems to be a necessity.

"Facta, non verba"—deeds, not words—is the heading of a letter which appeared in the *Pall Mall Gazette* heralding a charge against Mr. Bright, that he talks, but does nothing but "talk," in the House. But, with all due deference to the writer of the letter, words are deeds in the House of Commons. If a member contributes by his arguments to the passing a good or to the rejection of a bad measure, he has done a deed. 'Tis true that many independent members embody their words in a bill, and attempt to get the House to pass said bill; but, in nine cases out of ten, the attempt is futile and the member's time is wasted. Mr. Bright did not propose a bill to repeal the corn laws; but he, Cobden, Villiers, and other talkers really did the deed; and we owe it to them, more than to Sir Robert Peel, that the corn laws were repealed. After long observation, I have come to the conclusion that it is all but a desperate speculation for a private member to attempt, by bringing in a bill, to settle an important question. You may succeed, perhaps, in redressing small grievances, but no private member can hope to settle a great question. How many church-rate bills have been proposed by private members? At least a dozen in my time; but on each occasion it has been confessed on all hands that no private member could hope to get this vexed question settled. The better way, in the case of great questions, is, by talking, to create an opinion in their favour, and so compel the Government to take them in hand. Whatever may be the virtues or the faults of Mr. Bright, the crime of talking and not doing cannot be laid to his charge. Every wise word spoken that has influenced a single mind is a deed done. He made no motion on the celebrated case of the mutilation of Sir Alexander Burnes's despatches; but that scathing speech of his was not, we may be sure, made in vain. Had not Disraeli suddenly and unaccountably veered round, the Government must have gone out. But, though the motion of Mr. Dunlop was defeated, there will, we may be certain, be no more mutilations of despatches. And here I may say that none of our leading men out of office attempt private legislation. They know the futility of such attempts and will not waste their time upon them. But it has been said that he might attempt to lower our national expenditure. "He declaims against extravagance and does nothing to mitigate it." Well, this is comprehensible enough. The total income of the State in 1865-6 was nearly £68,000,000. Of this about £27,000,000 went to discharge the interest on the public debt, which, of course, cannot be ignored. The Army required nearly £14,000,000; the Navy, £10,250,000, an expenditure which everybody who knows the House of Commons must be aware is invulnerable. The Consolidated Fund takes nearly £2,000,000, and that is not brought before Parliament. Here, then, are £51,500,000 quite out of reach of Reformers. This leaves between £16,000,000 and £17,000,000, and it might be thought that something could be knocked off from this sum. But experience teaches otherwise. During the last twenty years there have been many hundreds of motions made to reduce this expenditure; and I do not believe that half a dozen—not more than three, if my memory serves me—have been successful; and certainly the total reduction has not exceeded £20,000. Is it to be wondered at, then, that our leading men will not waste their valuable time and their energies on these futile attempts to reduce our expenditure? So much for "Facta, non verba."

It would seem that the Parliamentary agents and solicitors will have very little to do next Session; nor will the members be wearied by Committee work. Last Session there were at the beginning of it over 500 private bills in the list. Next Session I learn that the number will not exceed 150, and very few of these will be fighting bills. Do Mr. Bright's ears tingle, I wonder, while all this pother is being made over his head or about his sayings? If they do, the hon. gentleman must have a tingling time of it. Mr. Bright's name meets one in every corner of nearly every newspaper or periodical one takes up. His sayings here and his doings there are chronicled in reports, commented on in leading articles, refuted (as the writers think) in letters to the editor, sneered at in paragraphs, ridiculed in epigrams, and made notorious in all sorts of ways. Everybody rushes into print with a contradiction of something the member for Birmingham has been saying, or is alleged to have been saying, or is supposed to have been saying; and when people have first

misquoted, and then (to their own satisfaction) refuted him, they think they have done marvellous clever things. I shall not trouble myself, as it is probable Mr. B. will not either, about any of these small deer of correctors. But it is curious to observe the muddle into which the Bishop of Oxford, certain of his clergy, and the *Times*, have fallen as to that education-near-Windsor story of Bright's. In his speech at Glasgow Mr. B. made a statement somewhat to this effect:—That in the vicinity of Windsor, where numerous noblemen, and squires, and clergymen resided, there lived a man with a family of eleven children, all of whom were growing up without receiving any education whatever. Well, the Bishop of Oxford has inquired into the matter, and he finds the facts to be exactly as Mr. Bright stated them. There are lots of noblemen, squires, and parsons resident near Windsor; and there is a family of eleven children living on the borders of Ascot Heath, which is in the neighbourhood of Windsor, none of whom have received or are receiving any education in school. Mr. Bright, then, made no misstatement. Oh, no! But he is supposed to have made an insinuation—to have inferred an inference, if I may be permitted the phrase. And that inference was that the fault lay with the noblemen, and squires, and parsons that this labourer's family were growing up in savage ignorance, the truth being that the blame lies with the man himself, who will not allow or compel his children to attend school. Well, it appears to me to be of little consequence whether Mr. Bright made the alleged insinuation or not. The facts remain; and what I should like to ask, and what probably Mr. Bright meant to ask, is this:—How the Bishop of Oxford and his clergy can hold their order blameless for the defective education of the people of England, seeing that that order has had the main control of popular instruction for at least three hundred years—that is, since the Reformation, at all events; and yet have to confess that there are still in the land men so ignorant as to be enamoured of ignorance—a state of things which exists, unhappily, not "near Windsor" alone, but in every part of the country.

A rumour has lately been circulated that the authorities of a museum in Paris were about to purchase the valuable collection of water-colour drawings of India, China, &c., belonging to Professor Hildebrandt, Court painter of Berlin, and which is now being exhibited at 48, Pall-mall. I am informed that such a negotiation was carried on by Herr von Olfers, General Director of the Royal Museums at Berlin, for the new museum in that city, but that he was unable to come to terms with the owner of the drawings. I hear, also, that a drawing of Miramar, the present residence of the unfortunate Empress of Mexico, will now also be exhibited.

The great brewers are about to raise the price in England of their pale ale just ten per cent. Probably not many of your readers are aware that these same brewers sell, and have sold for years, the same commodity in Ireland at just half the price charged to English consumers? I fancy I hear a business man exclaim, "What a capital speculation to send over to Ireland and re-import the malt liquor!" There is only one obstacle—it is not to be done. Every merchant in Ireland who purchases the ale at the Irish rate is bound by his undertaking not to transmit it, or sell it for transmission, across the Channel. From this fact English readers may judge for themselves of the necessity for an advance to English customers at a price already double that which the brewers are content to accept, therein including delivery, at a distance of some 300 miles.

From an evening contemporary I gather a marvellous report of an inquest upon the body of a person who, "it will be remembered, was severely injured in a fight at Bromley Races and took to Middlesex Hospital." It seems that one "Joe" threatened to "job deceased in the eyes" with his umbrella, and, suiting the action to the word, did so, whereby, the reporter gravely adds, the unfortunate man's "occiput was forced into the brain!" As the occiput is the hinder portion of the skull it is somewhat difficult to imagine how it could have been forced into the brain by a thrust in the eye. No wonder that the jury were advised by the coroner to adjourn. It must take them some time to consider such a difficult problem as here presented.

Mr. Alexander Andrews, author of a "History of British Journalism," has registered at Stationers' Hall a proposal to start a special press organ, to be entitled the *Newspaper Press*, as a medium of intercommunication between all persons connected with newspapers or interested in newspaper property.

Perhaps the most interesting of the entertainment announcements of the day is the intimation that Artemus Ward will make his first public appearance in England, at the Egyptian Hall, on Tuesday next. Mr. Ward's entertainment will take the form of an illustrated narrative, and will be entitled "Artemus Ward Among the Mormons; or, a Trip from New York to Salt Lake City." The pictures by Mormon artists.

Several novelties are now being exhibited at the Polytechnic, the most interesting of which is Professor Pepper's new lecture on combustion. In the course of his discourse the Professor shows how meat may be cooked at a distance of 100 ft. from the fire by visible rays and how a cigar may be lighted and other combustibles set on fire in a darkened room by invisible rays. The other features of the Polytechnic programme are of the usual highly interesting and instructive character.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

"I told you so!"—a remark you have heard before, I dare say. But some time ago, you will remember, Mr. Editor, my remarking, with my peculiarly felicitous humour, that the *Fortnightly Review* had been unfornitely christened, because, if it should become necessary to issue it only once a month, the name would be inappropriate. Well, for the present, the issuing of this organ on the 15th of the month is "suspended." Luckily, the *Review* is good enough to be able to stand a joke or an incongruity. The number for Nov. 1 is very good. Everybody will find something worth attention in "Elizabeth and her England" (Rev. W. Kirkus), "Russia and America" (Mr. Conway), "Theory of Missionary Effort" (Rev. G. R. Wynne), and the "Causeries" of the Editor.

In *Blackwood* "Sir Brook Fosbrooke" is concluded. This number is, as the magazine always is, full of good reading; but not as attractive, I think, as usual. The "Scraps of Verse from a Tourist's Journal" are very queer.

Macmillan has actually a "light article"—"The Ladies in Parliament"—and not at all bad in its way, though hardly good in any strong sense. Lord Hobart on "Bribery at Elections," Mrs. Norton in "Old Sir Douglas," and Mr. Barnes on "Thought Coincidence and Thought Thievery" are admirable articles. There is a nice memorial notice of the late David Roberts, R.A., and, besides, there are one or two other very pleasant papers.

Temple Bar and the *Churchman's Family Magazine* present nothing particularly calling for notice.

Mrs. Gatty's *Aunt Judy's Magazine* is a wonderful sixpennyworth—with its music, its woodcuts, and its stories.

London Society is much better than usual. "Beginning at the Wrong End" is a capital paper about the new Latin Primer, and "Choosing the Wedding Gown," after Mulready, is an excellent piece of wood engraving.

Mr. Hotten has sent me Mr. Swinburne's Reply to his Critics. If Mr. Swinburne or Messrs. Moxon and Co. had sent the volume itself to this Paper I will be bold to say it would have stood a chance of at least careful and deliberate handling. I defer noticing Mr. Swinburne's pamphlet until Mr. Hotten forwards Mr. Rosetti's "Criticism" on the poems. Mr. Swinburne on "William Blake" I await, too, with real impatience, Mr. Editor—Blake being one of my divinities.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Mr. Boucicault's new drama, "Hunted Down; or, the Two Lives of Mary Leigh," brought out a few nights ago at the St. JAMES'S, is an ingenious *rechauffé* of a good many very old materials. Bigamy, suspected unchastity, and forgery are interwoven with one another in "Hunted Down," as they have been in a dozen pieces of the same class within the last two years; but I am bound to admit that Mr. Boucicault has succeeded in enlivening these

rather repulsive elements with sparkling dialogue, and has invested, two of the characters with considerable originality. Mary Leigh (Miss Herbert), when a girl of sixteen, married Rawdon Scudamore a profligate gamester. He did not care for her, but she had two thousand pounds, and this sum was necessary to pay Scudamore's gaming debts. Immediately after the performance of the marriage ceremony Scudamore disappeared, and Mary had good reason to suppose that he was dead. So she contracted a second marriage with John Leigh, R.A. (Mr. Walter Lacy), a rising artist, and with him she is as happy as she can be, until shortly before the end of the first act. But at this particular period who should turn up but Rawdon Scudamore himself, alive and (save that he is penniless) well. Mary, in agony at the prospect of being separated from John Leigh and her two children, purchases Scudamore's silence until she can determine how to act. But Scudamore, who presented himself before her simply with the view to extort money from her, becomes enamoured of her in real earnest, and claims her as his wife. To all appearance there is no hope for the unhappy lady; and, as she is about to leave John Leigh for ever, a former wife of Scudamore turns up, in the person of Clara (Miss Ada Dyas), an artist's model and so Mrs. Leigh is restored to her position as John Leigh's wife. Miss Herbert has, in Mary Leigh, a part that is eminently adapted to her peculiar powers. To my thinking, there is no lady on the stage—save, perhaps, Miss Terry—who can enter a room and sit down on a chair as Miss Herbert can; and, apparently, it is no easy matter to enter a room on the stage with the unconscious ease of a person who has habitually moved in good society. In the more powerful situations of the piece Miss Herbert is, I think, rather too demonstrative; but she has an unusual array of troubles to contend with, and it is difficult to say in what particular form the distraction of a lady who has reason to believe that the husband whom she adores is no husband at all would be likely to take. At all events, I have often had the pleasure of seeing ladies in the bosom of their families, and I can therefore congratulate Miss Herbert most sincerely on the admirable picture of domestic happiness which she presented in the first act. Mr. Walter Lacy is not well suited with the part of John Leigh. It is a difficult part to play, and in Mr. Walter Lacy's hands it is simply ridiculous. He should remember that a truly contented man can be happy in his domestic circle without wearing a long curly wig parted down the centre, and that connubial felicity is but feebly indicated by skipping about the stage like Lord Dundreary. The part is altogether out of Mr. Lacy's line: he is an excellent "heavy" actor—witness his Henry VIII. and Don Sallust—and those who have seen him in those parts will regret that he ever left a line of business in which he held so distinguished a place. Of Mr. Irving's Rawdon Scudamore I find difficulty in speaking too highly. His "make up" and general tone indicated precisely the sort of scamp Rawdon Scudamore is made by Mr. Boucicault. When he is seedy, his seediness is not indicated by preposterous rags or by new trousers with a hole in them; his clothes are clothes that are well—but not too well—worn. In the second act, which shows him under more prosperous circumstances, his prosperity does not take the form of flashy coats, white hats, and patent leather boots; he is dressed just as a roué of some taste (but a roué, nevertheless) would dress himself. His best scene is that with his wife, Clara, in this act. The cool, quiet insolence with which he treats his devoted wife—the insolence of a man who is certain of her love, and wishes he was not—is the finest piece of undemonstrative acting that I have seen since I saw Mr. Hare as Prince Perovsky. Miss Dyas played the gambler's devoted wife with remarkable delicacy, and Mrs. Frank Matthews and Miss Guillon-le-Thière represented two parts subordinate in the piece, but conceived, nevertheless, with consummate skill. There is rather too much in the piece of Leigh's two children, but they are capably played by two clever little girls, and the fault lies with the author and not with them. "Hunted Down" is a very excellent specimen of a very unhealthy class of drama: its weakness lies in the third act, which might with advantage have been wedged to the second. The piece was most favourably received, and Mr. Boucicault was summoned before the curtain to receive the congratulations of a crowded house. "Hunted Down" was preceded by a foolish farce, by Mr. Maddison Morton, called "Newington Butts," in which a good deal of the material employed in "Woodcock's Little Game" is hashed up again.

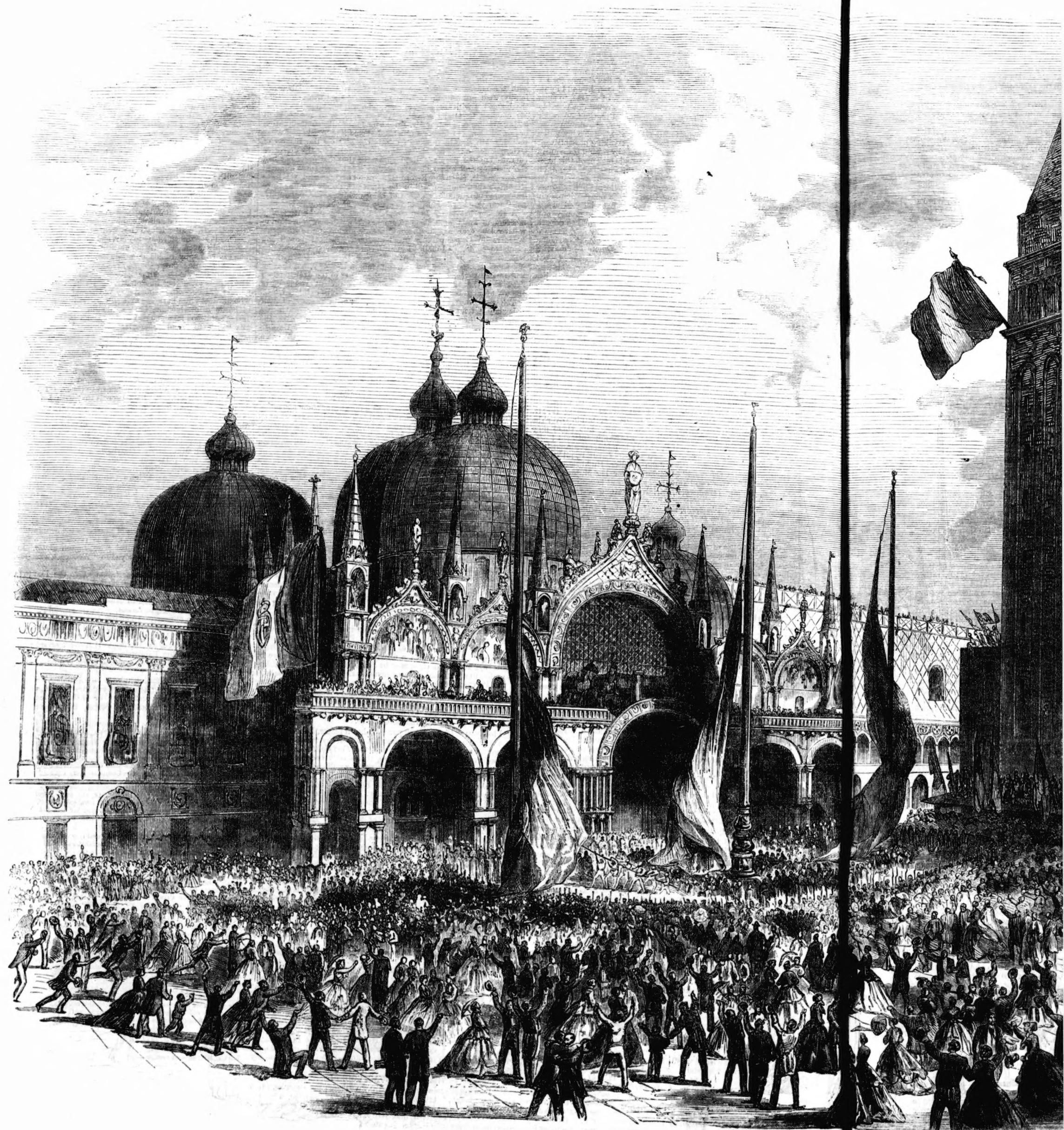
Artemus Ward opens his entertainment at the EGYPTIAN HALL on Tuesday next; and on the same day a dramatised version of "Barnaby Rudge" is to be produced at the PRINCESS's, with Mrs. John Wood in the character of Miss Miggs. By-the-way, how magnificently this piece might be cast if it were possible to do so without reference to the difficulty of getting together the necessary actors. Miss Farren as Barnaby Rudge, Mr. Leigh Murray as young Joe Willet, poor Mr. Tibury as old Joe Willet, Mr. Hare as Sir John Chester, Miss Woolgar as Miss Miggs (I haven't yet seen Mrs. Wood), poor Oxberry as Sam Tappertit, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Matthews as the locksmith and his wife, and Miss Marie Wilton as Dolly Varden. There's a cast for you!

I must explain a misprint in your last Number. I am made to begin a sentence with "Thus, Nelly Moore." This, taken with the context, is nonsense; and, with or without the context, it is decidedly rude. It should, of course, have been "Miss Nelly Moore."

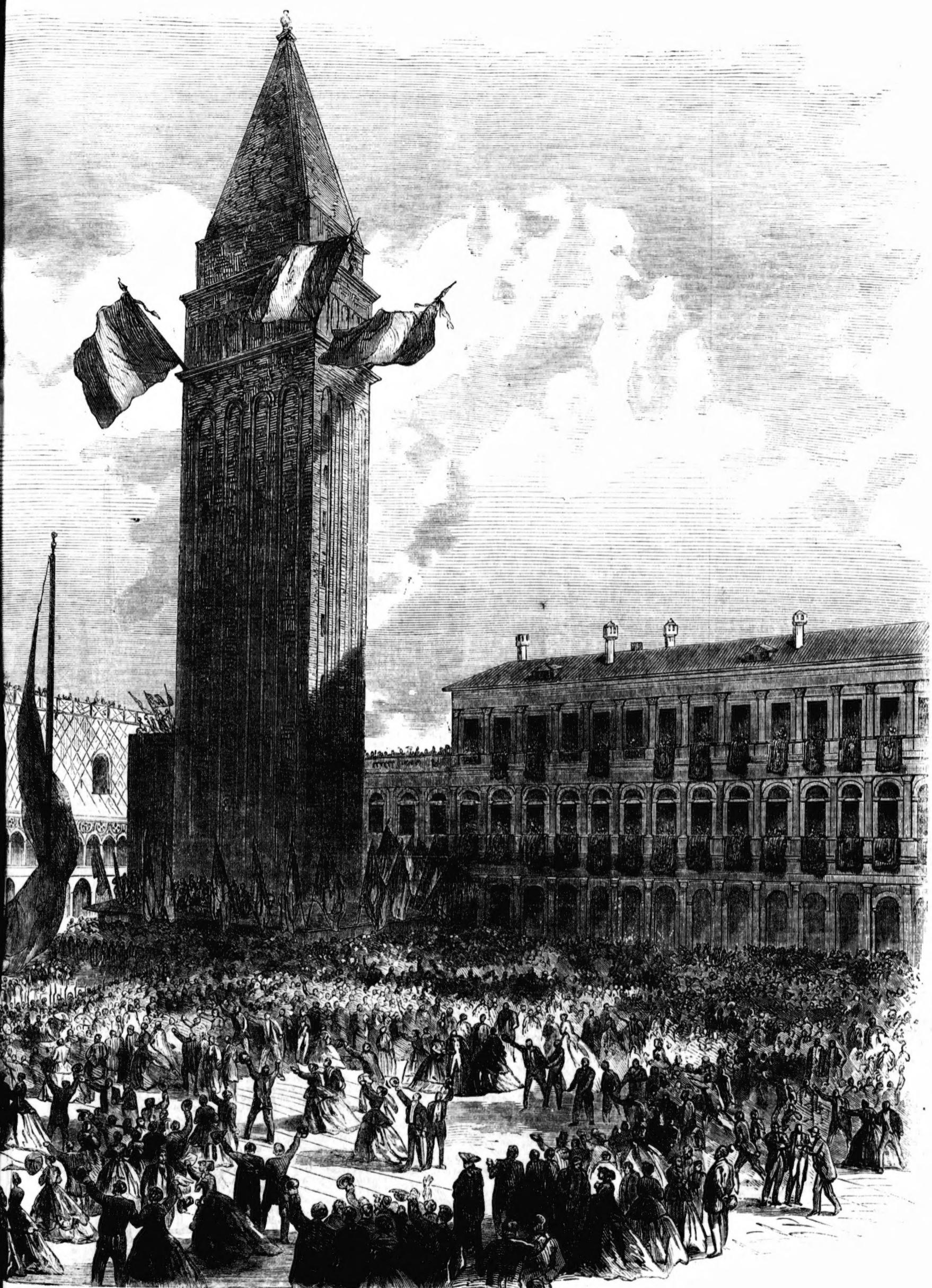
THE GREAT FLOODS IN THE FENS.—It will be remembered that in May, 1862, a great flood in the fens inflicted considerable damage in the neighbourhood of Lynn. After a lengthened litigation it was decided that the Middle-Level Drainage Commissioners must make good the pecuniary damage sustained, and it appears that compensation claims have been sent in to the amount of £77,718. The Commissioners consider the claims made to be much in excess of the damage sustained, and at present only fourteen claims have been adjusted. The Commissioners propose to raise on loan £138,000 on the security of a special tax, and an application will be made next Session for an Act to sanction the arrangement. The income of the Commissioners on the general fund account for the year ending April 6, 1866, was £36,605, of which £20,138 was absorbed in interest on existing loans.

BISHOP COLENSO'S SALARY.—Lord Romilly gave judgment, on Tuesday, in the action brought by Dr. Colenso against the trustees of the Colonial Bishoptics' Fund to recover the amount of his salary, which had not been handed to him since the sentence of deprivation had been pronounced against him by the Bishop of Capetown as his metropolitan. The learned Judge said that no questions of heresy or of personal misconduct came before him, or, indeed, were urged by the defendants; the sentence of deprivation had been set aside by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council; and he had therefore to consider the question merely as one of contract between the parties. He held that Dr. Colenso had performed all the duties devolving upon him as a Bishop, and that he was therefore entitled to his salary. The judgment was consequently in favour of Dr. Colenso, and the defendants were ordered to pay the arrears of salary and all the costs.

THE BELGIAN RIFLE PRIZES.—In addition to the many prizes which the English volunteers won in the long-range shooting at the late fêtes, when they won all the prizes offered for "foreign riflemen," the list just completed of the short-range firing, which closed a few days since, show that a great many of their body have made points and *bians* in the peculiar shooting so much in vogue at Continental competitions, and which have not been beaten, notwithstanding that the shooting has been carried on unremittingly since, and without the nerve-shaking excitement of the fête-time. For the arms de guerre competition of the *cible-fixé*, in which the competitor can only enter once, the following will obtain prizes of *couverts d'argent à filets*:—Sergeant L. Gould, of the 37th Middlesex, 22 points; Mr. Gibbs of Bristol, 20; and 19 to Mr. F. Haigh, Sergeant Russell, of the 24th Kent; Sergeant Leete, of the Queen's (Westminster); Mr. G. Spratt, of Liverpool; Mr. Wallace, of Edginglewood; and Colour-Sergeant White, of the 39th Middlesex. For each obtaining a good *beau blanc*, Mr. J. Lash, of the 2nd, and Ensign Walker, of the 4th, Tower Hamlets, will each have six *couverts d'argent à filets*; and the following will receive a lesser number of *couverts*:—Lieutenant Pixley, of the Victorias; Mr. Hooper, of the Queen's; Mr. Page, of Aylesbury; Mr. A. Alford, of Sussex; Mr. E. Haigh, of the 1st East York; and Mr. A. Cortis, of Worthing (the winner of the King's prize). In the *cible à volonté*, in which the competitor might enter as often as he liked, Lieutenant Pixley; Mr. Haigh, of Hull; and Lieutenant Marriner, of the West Middlesex, each made 22 points. The English who made *bians* and will receive small prizes are Mr. A. Field, of Arundel; Mr. Woolley, of Chester; Mr. A. Self, of Aylesbury; Mr. Gibbs, of Bristol; Mr. G. Cooper, of Liverpool; and Ensign Walker, of the 4th Tower Hamlets. These prizes are to be presented, in a few weeks' time, at the Church of St. Augustine, at Brussels.



HOISTING THE ITALIAN FLAG IN THE SQUARE OF ST. MARK, VENICE, ON OCTOBER 19, 1866.



THE LIBERATION OF VENICE.

We have already published an account of the transfer of the city of Venice from Austrian to Italian rule, and, in connection with our Engravings this week, add a few further details.

HOISTING THE NATIONAL STANDARD.

A correspondent, writing on the evening of the 19th ult., the day on which the Austrians finally departed and the Italian army entered Venice, says:—

"The sun rose into a full blue sky this morning over Venice. She begins her new history with a day as august and fair as any that gave her a memorable record in the old. There has not been a cloud in heaven from dawn to midnight, or one discordant note in the rejoicing of the city. It is Venice Revived: the close of a tragedy to which many have thought we should see no end in this generation. It has come suddenly and strangely, without any supreme effort—without the master-stroke which all supposed necessary to shake off her chains; but it is not the less the work of her children. They who in 1849 battled for freedom with manly heroism have since that period protested against the yoke with a courage equally steadfast and honourable, and they have this day their reward."

"I took leave of the last Austrian sentry on the Piazzetta, about an hour before he was gathered to his regiment on board the steamer, under a cold moonlight. He was standing in a tricornered box, peering out of it very much in the manner of a hermit crab who has suffered an ejection from his own shell and takes temporary shelter where he can get it. A few hours later, by daylight, I found the 'Capponia' bars moved, the bronze guns gone, and men busy scouring out the traces of the departed 'Tedeschi.' At eight o'clock punctually General Möhring handed the city to the French commissioner, and it was in the same way formally intrusted by General Lebeuf to Count Luigi Michiel, the *Primo Assessore*—equivalent, I fancy, to our High Sheriff—of the now established municipality. The King appoints the Podesta when he comes to visit his subjects. It will doubtless be Count Michiel. General Alemann remained at his post until the moment when his Sovereign's authority had ceased to exist in Venice, and then he took ship and steamed for Trieste, on his way to his new command in Gratz. I have already told you that he bears with him the esteem of this people, and to have that is enough for his reputation. While rounding the island of San Giorgio, to make his course out by Malamocco, he was met and passed in silence by the Italian war-steamer Garibaldi, from which the first salute to Venice was fired, on the stroke of nine a.m., when the 'gonfalons,' otherwise the broad Italian tricolour banners, with the white cross of Savoy on a red ground, surmounted by the crown in the middle space, ran up the three red masts fronting the Duomo, and the bells of the great Campanile of St. Mark's were set swinging. The Piazza was a sea of upraised faces; the roaring of voices more like a torrent than a sea. 'Italia!' was the cry; 'Venezia!' and 'Vittorio Emanuele!' grouped beside it. But for a long while the intense acclamation of gladness precluded all intermittent intelligible shouts. Flags and handkerchiefs waved from the Doge's Palace, the Orologio, the Palazzo Reale, and the Procuratie Vecchio, and the banners rolled out their folds in a soft breeze, guns firing and bells clamouring. The Garibaldi, followed into line along the Rive dei Schiavoni by four other steamers, for which some Austrian shallow-water boats made way in good order, and an ironclad, the Varese, thundering out towards the Lido, drew off a portion of the crowd to see the smoke of their own big guns. The National Guard, however, managed to keep a dense concourse around the drooping standards. For a concluding 'Evviva' they raised their hats on their bayonets. Their heads not being visible, and their enthusiasm and zeal being notorious, the rickety nodding of all these caps on the steel spines produced a stupefying effect for half an instant; but as soon as the guard was heard the people joined in a final cheer, after which guard and people rushed to the Riva to hail their navy. The thoroughness of their rejoicing during this natal hour of the city's liberty was incontestable. Extending from the Piazzetta in decreasing ranks up to the public gardens, they stood cheering to the guns, not the less heartily because with perfect self-command—the gentlest crowd in the world. They were as dense as peas in a sack; you could pass through them as softly as a gondola cleaves water. I did not meet a rough face or a coarse expression on any of the faces, or hear jeasts of that description, but smiles of kindness and pleasure made my task of seeing everything as cheerful a business as I could have. Nearly every third man wore a printed or painted 'SI' in large letters on a sort of stiff paper feather in his hat—that is, he says 'Yes' thus early to the anticipated question whether he will have Victor Emmanuel for his King."

APPEARANCE OF THE ITALIAN TROOPS ON THE GRAND CANAL.

Of all the spectacles that attended this great national holiday, this grand historical rejoicing, which has gilded prosaic time with something of glory, the scene when the troops reached the Grand Canal was the most imposing; even the tremendous concourse at St. Mark's and the hoisting of the great national banners were as nothing to this in its splendid exhibition of light, life, colour, and the running fire of outbursting enthusiasm.

All Venice had learnt by heart the official programme put forth by the Congregazione Municipale of Venice as to the order of proceedings to be observed on that momentous Friday. The Austrians, it was stated, would have entirely evacuated the city by daybreak. The formal surrender of the keys by General Möhring to General Lebeuf, and by him to General Revel, would then take place, at nine o'clock precisely, amidst a salvo of artillery; the Italian banner would be hoisted from the three tall masts in the Piazza San Marco, which in bygone days bore the symbols of the dominion of the Most Serene Republic over Venice, Cyprus, and the Morea. At nine a corps of 5000 Italian troops, under the command of General Medici, would arrive from the mainland at the railway terminus and would enter the city in three different bodies and by three different routes; one body embarking in gondolas and proceeding straight along the Grand Canal to the Piazzetta; another coming round, also by water, by the channel of the Zattau; the third crossing and recrossing the two iron bridges, and marching through the streets—not one of which is wider than old Cranbourne-alley—to the Piazza San Marco.

It was to the first of these that the public attention seemed to be devoted, for they were to appear in triumph along that great water-street, the pride of Venice, the banks of which are lined with those marble mansions the names of whose first owners have become history. Since that time they have degenerated, and, though some of the paintings, the sculptures, the grand old works of art have remained, the Austrian has lorded it there; the palaces have been turned into public offices, and the blue and white uniforms of the Croat or the Viennese have blotted the scene. Now these have vanished—they had vanished before the Italian army came in triumph along that glorious water-street; the palaces are restored, the national property is reclaimed, and even the gondolas have broken out into colour, gay with many-hued flags and streamers.

That scene on the Grand Canal was magnificent. The municipality had entreated the citizens to confine the manifestation of their enthusiasm on this particular day to flags and streamers, and to reserve the more gorgeous, and more peculiarly Venetian, display of tapestry, carpets, and window-curtains hung out of the windows for the occasion of the arrival of the King of Italy; but popular enthusiasm had been deaf to the voice of the municipality, and the woven wealth that is within Venetian palaces had to a great extent run over. The spectacle of a "house out of window" was performed a hundred times a minute on the Grand Canal. Out came the Brussels and the Aubussons, the Kidderminsters and the printed druggets; out came hearthrugs and damask curtains, all mingled with wondrous tapestries of the sixteenth century—the chef-d'œuvre, it may be, of the looms of Courtray and Arras. Next to the display of textile fabrics was the lavish exposure of pocket-handkerchiefs. Everybody seemed to have at least three, not to apply to their legitimate use, but to wave in a frantically patriotic manner.

In his description of the scene a "special correspondent" says:—"The great waterway was paved with boats. There were gondolas everywhere; and the few interstices which presented themselves

were filled with skiffs and barges. It was an enormous and glowing parterre of pleasure-boats, of banners and streamers, of gay costumes, of gondoliers in new apparel, of flowers and bright carpets. There were public gondolas and private gondolas; there were men, there were women, there were children, there were soldiers and sailors; there were brown-cowled monks peeping from the casements of convents; there was a great kaleidoscopic jumble of life and noise, and movement and colour, and light and shade, and reflection and refraction; there was the *Tohu-bohu* of the Hebrews; there was such a pictorial come-and-go, a mingling and a massing, a surging and writhing of chromatic caprice; there was a sea of gold and purple glory such as the Venetian Canaletto never imagined.

"In the midst of this tremendous sea of happy, holiday people, laughing, and shouting, and embracing, came, slowly and stately, half a dozen great galleys, decked with flags, brave in draperies, full from stem to stern of Italian soldiers. As the clock strikes noon, the guests of the day march out of the railway station and down its noble staircase into the barques appointed to receive them. There is the clash of martial music; there is Garibaldi's Hymn; there is the Royal Anthem; there is the *grido di guerra*. Now comes, swanlike, a great argo, laden with National Guards. Then follow the carabinieri, the picked men, the boldest, bravest of Italians, the *bene meriti dell' armata*, the only police force, perhaps, in Europe who are not unpopular. Like doves from a thousand arks, the white handkerchiefs of the women in the balconies fly out to greet these good, solid men. Now come the bersaglieri, bronzed and saucy-looking, but eminently serviceable. To these succeed many boats full of Italian infantry, and gondolas conveying officers of all arms in full uniform. The pace at which the flotilla moves is but a snail's one, but it is all too rapid for the spectators, who cannot dwell too long or too lovingly on the soldiers, who, to them, represent their restoration to a national existence and their deliverance from a cruel and galling servitude."

DECLARING THE RESULT OF THE PLEBISCITE.

On the afternoon of the 27th ult., there took place in the sumptuous Sala di Scrutinio in the Ducal Palace the official confirmation of the plebiscitum of Sunday and Monday last. The result solemnly announced by the scrutineers had been perfectly well known for at least three days. It is one of the peculiarities of the system known as "secret voting," that the secret is never more than *un secret de Polichinelle*—that is to say, that the figures of the majority and the minority are always published a considerable period before any official declaration of the poll takes place. However, the members of the Venetian Tribunal of Appeal, acting as scrutineers—or "spoliators of the electoral urna," as they are termed—did their duty in a very dignified and efficient manner. The result of the plebiscitum was subsequently published *urb et orbi*, from the balconies of the Ducal Palace, and saluted with the clangour of martial music and a salvo of 101 guns. A large and fashionable assemblage filled the reserved seats in the Sala di Scrutinio, and the President of the Court of Appeal stood on a dais before a rich drapery of crimson velvet, in the centre of which was a portrait of Victor Emmanuel. The president and his assessors were in plain evening dress.

OPENING OF SUBTERRANEAN CHAMBERS, &c., IN CORNWALL.

SOME explorations at Treveneague, West Cornwall, have just been concluded under the superintendence of Mr. J. T. Blight and other members of the Penzance Antiquarian Society, and have resulted in many interesting and curious discoveries. Several workmen were employed, and, after much labour and perseverance, they succeeded in removing a portion of a stone roof of a passage about 45 ft. in length, 4 ft. wide at the base and 3 ft. at the top, and 4 ft. 9 in. high. This was walled with dry masonry, the stones being placed carefully and with skill to receive the large slabs which were thrown across to form the roof, which remains perfect to the length of 12 ft. 6 in. to the easternmost part. Within 1 ft. of the extremity of this passage a doorway, 1 ft. 6 in. high by 2 ft. 4 in. wide, with jambs and lintel each of one stone, leads into a chamber excavated in the hard clay. This chamber, with arched roof, is of elliptical form, and measures 15 ft. in length, 6 ft. in breadth, and 4 ft. in height. At the end of the long passage, and at right angles with the doorway just described, is another chamber, formed in a similar manner, but only 1 ft. 3 in. in breadth. About midway in the great passage was found a part of some iron instrument with a socket, evidently intended to receive a handle; but it has become so shapeless by corrosion that it is impossible to say whether it was a spear-head or some article of domestic use. Other pieces of iron—in two instances with wood adhering—have been exhumed from different parts of the cave. Several pieces of bone were found, intermixed with broken pottery of two kinds—one thin, and of very dark colour, which had been turned into a lathe; the other of a lighter colour, much thicker, and altogether inferior. Both were baked, and had subsequently been subjected to the action of fire. Another variety consisted of fragments of, apparently, an elegantly shaped vessel of a very fine ware, glazed within and without, and with a zigzag ornamentation: this is undoubtedly Roman. All the bottom of the passage contained a mass of burnt stones and other matter, with great quantities of charcoal, small pieces of bone, and fragments of pottery. This black layer was from 8 in. to 1 ft. in depth, and in its midst, adjoining the north wall, was discovered a curved bone 15 in. long and 1½ in. thick. It lay close beside a broader piece, 6 in. long, which rested on pottery. There were, within a radius of a few inches, other pieces of pottery, but not enough to form a complete vessel; also, a lump of corroded iron 4 in. long, and a portion of a large fine pebble. In another part of the passage was found a wrought stone, in appearance like a modern building brick, 4 in. square by 3 in. thick; also, stones which appear to have been used for grinding or for sharpening tools, and there was a rude stone hatchet or celt. The floor of the elliptical chamber was strewn with charcoal, some pieces being so entire as to show the size of the wood consumed. There were not, however, in this chamber so much the signs of the actual presence of fire as in the long passage which, for whatever purpose originally designed, has certainly at one time been the scene of a fierce conflagration, shown not only by the loose burnt articles on the floor, but by the discolouration of the side walls. Mr. Osborne, who occupies the estate where these investigations have taken place, states that his father had in his employ an old labourer who assisted in the demolition of a large circular earthwork which surrounded the cave. Traces of ancient smelting places, commonly called Jews' houses, have been found on the site, and on removing a few feet of turf the signs of fire may still be seen there. The discovery and excavation of the Treveneague cave is of some importance in Cornish archaeology. Another instance is afforded of these caves being within fortifications. It is shown that for some purpose there were large fires within its walls, and that it contained remains similar to those found in the subterranean passages of like character which exist in Scotland, and are known by the names of "Weems" and "Eirdhouse." The cave is situated near ancient mineworks. Other caves in the neighbourhood will be examined, and it is hoped that some may be discovered in more perfect condition than the one now described, so as to afford a satisfactory explanation of their origin.

COSTESSEY HALL.—It was accidentally omitted to be mentioned in our last that our Engraving of Costessey Hall was from a photograph by Mason and Co., of Norwich, and Bond-street, London.

"CURIOSITIES OF LITERATURE."—The following poetical placard is now extensively posted upon all the hoardings of London:—

THE LAST NEW DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

The name of a firm—a warning quite clear,
And a popular work that will shortly appear.

1. A fool—and yet no fool, as I've a notion:
2. An article, that pointing, would as low shun:
3. A fortress captured once by Britons true:
4. Old as the old Greek alphabet—yet new:
5. A lovely child whose health did in extreme all:
6. And a relation volatile and female.

And also another of the same dimension, "Five Alls," five times repeated—is this the answer? Or should it run—Wamba, An, Redan, Nu, Eva, and Sal?

THE LOVERS' GRAVE.—The following strange story is going the round of the French journals:—"M. de R.—, having acquired a fortune in business, retired to a handsome property he possessed near Fontainebleau. Soon after, his daughter Julie, twenty-one years of age, was asked in marriage by a gentleman of the neighbourhood, and, in spite of her opposition and avowed repugnance, the wedding took place. In the evening the bride was missed, and the result of the researches made was only to find that the groom's man, who had been a friend of the young lady from infancy, had likewise disappeared. The father, like everyone else, believed in an elopement, and all the usual means were employed to trace the fugitives, but unsuccessfully. This occurred five years ago, and M. de R.— having lately purchased some adjoining property, on which was a quarry long out of use, set some men to work, who found at the bottom of an old excavation two skeletons, which, from the remains of the clothes and the jewels, were recognized as the missing bride and her lover."

FINE ARTS.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION AT THE FRENCH GALLERY.

The season of winter exhibitions has commenced. It set in rather severely, for on Saturday last no less than five private views were open. We would venture to hint that such a glut of art is rather too severe a task for the critic and not wise policy as regards the public, who are apt to find one exhibition a day as much as they can fairly manage. It is rather a difficult matter to decide which of the galleries should have first mention; but we award the apple to Mr. Gambart's collection—not because we would for a moment say it is best where all are so good, but because it is somewhat smaller than the others, which will require a second visit. Mr. Gambart's gallery is an excellent exhibition-room, and is not a whit too small. It is, in fact, just the size to contain a collection that delights without wearying. This in the present instance procures for him priority of notice; but it might win it for him on the ground of merit also, if he would exercise a little more sternness. With so modest a quantity of wall at his disposal, he should be able to fill his room with gems of the purest water, to the exclusion of the inferior work which must creep into a large exhibition. We might have been spared the red-haired horror of No. 132, the feeble daubing of No. 27, and the weak prettiness of No. 58, with one or two other canvases, which we have neither the space nor the desire to indicate.

The collection is especially strong in figure-subjects, thanks to the works of Messrs. Calderon, Goodall, Marks, Sandys, Storey, Watson, and Walker. "The Wayfarers" (215), by the last-named artist, is a curiously truthful picture. It is one which does not arrest—at least, does not pleasantly arrest—the attention; but a minute's study makes us familiar with its beauty and fidelity. The two figures stand out in bold relief from the background and the steaming atmosphere of the misty, drizzly day. To appreciate thoroughly the value of this vigorous truth we have but to turn to Mr. E. M. Ward's garish picture of "Goldsmith" (217), which looks as if it had been painted by gaslight from stage properties and hairdressers' dummies. Mr. Watson, like Mr. Walker, eschews this gaudy style of art. There are a purity and a richness in his colouring which achieve greater things than Mr. Ward's feverish accumulation of reds and yellows, with black shadows to throw them into relief. Mr. Watson's "Barber's Shop" (218) and "The Tailor" (219) exhibit a humorous side which he has not shown us before. The first is excellent, but the figure of the gallant in the second seems to us to be slightly out of proportion. "Robinson Crusoe" (220) is simply delightful; and that is, also, the only term that can be applied to Mr. Storey's "Breakfast" (204)—four glorious little people arrayed in bib and tucker sitting in a row while mamma waits on them at their meal. The merit of the painting is great, for the artist has selected a difficult effect, the little folk being placed under a window with their backs to the light. This is, perhaps, the picture of the gallery; though Mr. Calderon's exquisite "Hide and Seek" (33) and "Letter" (34) press it hard. Mr. Calderon, however, will probably not complain to find himself placed second to a picture which owes so much to the beauty of its subject. "The Letter" is a simple bit of quiet interior painted as Mr. Calderon can paint. "Hide and Seek" presents us to two little children, who in their anxiety to conceal themselves quite overlook the fact that their toy horse and cart standing outside their hiding-place cannot fail to betray their whereabouts. Mr. Marks's "Sacristy" (156), and "What make you here?" (157), are both admirable specimens of his style; but we have never seen anything from his easel which has pleased us more than "The Garden at Olney" (158), evidently painted from nature, and proving beyond a doubt that the weakness of background which at times mars the effect of his best works is not due to lack of power to paint landscape. Mr. Hodgson, in "A Strange Fish" (114), has selected a subject somewhat in Mr. Marks's style, and treats it with some humour and much skill.

Mr. A. Moore, whose peculiar and pleasing colouring would have made him the most popular painter in Pompeii, gives us in "Lilies" (162) another of his marvellously-drawn studies after the antique. There is an undefinable charm about his work, which the most lavish use of a palette laid like a rainbow could never produce. Mr. Hughes, whose forte is rich colour, might here study with advantage the grace of lines that are yet severe and the secret of a harmony that is not too highly pitched. Mr. Hughes gives us examples of both extremes of his style—a stiff and affected "Singer" (119), rather black in the shadows, and a poetical and well-painted female bust, entitled "The Dove" (120). Mr. Goodall gives us another version of his last year's "Hagar and Ishmael" (100), and we have a most delightful example of Mr. Thom in "Children Gathering Apples in Normandy" (210). Perfection is to be found somewhere in the space which separates Mr. Thom from Mr. Moore, we are inclined to believe.

Mr. Sandy, who was so strong last year, is only represented by one portrait this season—a likeness of "Mrs. Rose" (189). We have seen finer examples of his power where he has had finer models; but this is to compare him with the standard he has himself set up. As compared with even such "artistic" work as Mr. Watt's two portraits in this gallery (222, 223), it is life as opposed to caricature. The detail, as usual with so thorough an artist, is miraculous, without detracting from the whole effect; but Mr. Sandy is not so happy in his model as he has been in other portraits. A "fine woman" is not so valuable artistically as a "grand old lady" such as he has painted. Mr. Prinsep in "Going to Mass" (179) asserts some claim to the reputation he has, a little to our wonder, acquired; while Mr. Tourrier in "Reverie" (211) proves that he has not won fame without merit. Mr. Faed in "Music hath Charms" (87) flings aside blackness (which has too often injured his pictures), we hope for ever. Mr. Bedford, Mr. Fisk, Mr. Ballantyne, and Mr. Rossiter all appear on the walls to advantage; and Miss Osborn asserts her claim to a repute which has been somewhat in abeyance this last year or so. Mr. Solomon gives us a picture that is too sketchy to win unmixed approval—some effects are only to be got by loose-handling. Mr. Leslie should have put his charming figure against a more pleasing background. Mr. Lucy should give us less of his "Babes in the Wood;" and Mr. Scott should give us something more ambitious if he would retain the name some of his critics claim for him.

Mr. Elmore is not happy this year. His lady "en déshabille" (86) looks feverish, which is not nice and not necessary, for Mr. Elmore has the harmonies at his command. Miss Solomon must correct a dirtiness in her shadows; and Messrs. Brodie, Kewstow, and Claxton must reform their method of painting altogether.

Mr. Madox Brown, in his "Coat of Many Colours" (30), is so good and bad that he must have a paragraph to himself. There is much that is excellent in it, but also much that is feeble. The patriarch's figure and attitude are weak in the extreme, while the figure of the brother who points out the bloodstains in the coat is thoroughly good, the face especially being a marvellous conception. The tone of colour is unattractive, and the effect is that of a piece of very faded tapestry, more especially as the background needs aerial perspective.

In landscape, Mr. H. W. B. Davis, in his "Study" (64), must claim the foremost place, whether it be for the magnitude of his attempt or the greatness of his success. Mr. George Sant, Mr. F. Dillon, Mr. Pilleau, and Mr. Jutsum are not far behind him in merit. Mr. Hargett does not show to advantage this year; he seems to have got into an old-fashioned mode of treatment. Mr. E. Edwards's "Haunted" (84) is a clever picture, and M. Desanges's "Fontainebleau" (73) proves that his success in landscape is perhaps greater than in portraiture. Mr. G. Stansfield gives us some of his clear, bright, foreign views; Mr. Field some of his pleasant snatches of nature, and Mr. Oakes a couple of his bold effects. Mr. Bottomley, Mr. Anthony, and Mr. Knight are also efficiently represented; and there are two pictures by members of the Linne family, with all the faults, and also the merits, inseparable from the name. Mr. Cooper, Mr. Beavis, Mr. Downard, and Mr. Astor Corbould are the representatives of the school of animal-painters, and we need hardly say the school is ably represented.

On the whole, Mr. Gambart's exhibition is a very good one; but we cannot close our notice of it without again reminding him that, where the pictures are limited in number, they should be, one and all, of the highest merit.

ADMIRALTY MISMANAGEMENT.

Not very long ago a flagship was required for Channel service, and the Minotaur, the representative of our largest and untried class of ironclads, was named for the duty, it being naturally considered that in the trials then contemplated, and which have since been made of our ironclads, under steam and canvas, it was essential to a full knowledge of their capabilities that all classes should be represented. The Minotaur has all the necessary cabin and other accommodation as a flagship; no vessel could carry the flag of an Admiral more imposingly; and it was certainly desirable that something should be known of her capabilities. The Admiral, however, who wanted a flagship objected to the Minotaur. It was said she was too big, too fast, and altogether too much of an experiment to be trusted with the flag of an Admiral commanding a squadron. The internal fittings aft were also understood to be not entirely approved. Whatever the cause, the Minotaur was rejected for flagship duty, and another vessel selected, whose class merits could be ascertained from other like vessels afloat and in commission. The ship that succeeded the Minotaur was, however, an ironclad; so that, after all, the gallant Admiral flew his flag on board a true fighting-ship, and no harm was done beyond keeping the Minotaur in the steam-basin of Portsmouth dockyard to this date an untried ship. The course followed with the Minotaur is about to be copied if we are rightly informed, on the change of the command of her Majesty's ships on the North American and West Indian station, and in the present instance an endeavour will be made to carry it out in a still more objectionable manner. The present "situation" may be best understood by a brief résumé of facts bearing upon the preparation and selection of a ship to carry the flag of the successor to Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope in North American and West Indian waters. The armour-plated wood-built steam-frigate Royal Alfred, 4068 tons, 800-horse power, has been specially fitted for a flagship's duties, and it is no secret that the Controller of the Navy is most anxious that she should be placed in commission on the first opportunity, and that such opportunity was expected to offer itself on the relief of Sir James Hope. The Royal Alfred carries the thickest armour-plating (6 in.) of all the wood-built armoured vessels in her Majesty's Navy, and will carry a heavier armament (12 ton 9 in. rifled guns) than any other vessel of her class afloat. Her accommodation for an Admiral and his suite, as also for her officers and crew, are all that can be desired. The ventilation of the ship is perfect; her speed will be a good twelve knots under full steam; she will possess good average sailing qualities, and her metal-coated bottom renders her peculiarly suited as an ironclad for cruising in tropical waters. In June last Captain Edward W. Turnour and Commander Guy O. Twiss were appointed to the Royal Alfred, on the books of the Victory, to superintend her outfit, and the carriages and slides for her guns are now being completed for her in the steam-factory of Portsmouth dockyard. In fact, it may be considered that on the 1st of the present month the Royal Alfred was so far advanced in her outfit that she was then ready for commission, and would be ready for sea, with her new and formidable armament complete, by the time Sir James Hope's successor was ready to proceed to his command. But now comes the change, and the following of the precedent established by the Minotaur. Captain Turnour and Commander Twiss return to the half-pay list from the Royal Alfred on the 15th inst., the flag will be placed on the inactive list of the "reserves," at Portsmouth, and the wooden, unarmoured two-decker Duncan, the present flagship of Sir James Hope in the West Indies, is to return with Sir James to England, undergo a thorough repair and refit, and again proceed to the North American and West Indian station as the flagship of Sir James Hope's successor, Vice-Admiral Sir George Rodney Mundy, K.C.B. No one, not even a Lord of the Admiralty, would be so rash as to designate a wooden-built line-of-battle ship without armour as a fighting war-ship. Still it appears that such a vessel is about to be again dispatched from England with an Admiral's flag at the fore, and to the North American station above all others, where we can only expect to be laughed at for our antiquated notions and extraordinary preference of pomp and luxury to real efficiency. In these days of ironclads the Duncan is not a fighting ship, and therefore is not a fitting vessel for the flagship of a British Admiral in foreign waters. She can only carry guns that are harmless in their fire upon the sides of an ironclad, while at the same time her own hull offers a huge target ready for burning by the first broadside of an enemy's shells. If the Duncan is refitted for the new Admiral's flag for the West Indian command, a return of the cost of her refit moved in the House of Commons may be conducive to Admiralty economy and wisdom in the future.

The Admiralty official *Navy List* for the current quarter contains in its "List of the Steam-ships and Vessels of the Royal Navy" one vessel thus placed:—"96. Captain, 6, iron screw turret-ship, armour-plated, 4272 tons, 900-horse power; building by Messrs. Laird, Birkenhead." This, of course, is the vessel about which so much has been said as having been designed by Messrs. Laird, under Captain Coles' superintendence and directions, and which is supposed to represent Captain Coles' views on the subject of turretships. As Parliament at present stands prorogued, it is impossible to ask Sir John Pakington, in his place in the House of Commons, whether this vessel has any existence beyond the appearance of her name and description on the official *Navy List*. It is reported that she has no existence beyond the list, and, although there described as "building by Messrs. Laird," that no steps have yet been taken for laying her down; nor is the contract for her construction yet signed.—*Times*.

EXPERIMENTS WITH A NEW GUN.—The Emperor Napoleon has lately had some experiments made in his presence with a new gun, which fires more than the minimum of twelve shots a minute at present required, and which has the advantage over the Chassepot of costing no more than the old musket—that is to say, 35/-, while the needle guns cost 70/. This weapon, of which the mechanism and management are very simple, will, it is said, be given to the artillery, whom the Chassepot does not very well suit. The new gun has this advantage for the artillery—that of having a larger bore, which is necessary for soldiers of this arm to repulse cavalry, against whom they are most often engaged.

THE KENT-ROLL OF THE NEW LIVERPOOL EXCHANGE.—Though only about one half of the magnificent new Exchange-buildings at Liverpool has been yet completed, and though the offices in the finished range are but very partially fit for occupation, the rents of those already entered upon amount to about £15,000 per annum. One firm of brokers are paying £1700 a year for offices on the ground floor, and an insurance company £1000 a year for an office on the second floor. It was generally anticipated that the news-room, which is to be on an immense scale, would be opened in October, but it will not actually be ready until January, when the present news-room will be vacated, and the buildings on the east side of the square proceeded with. There are about 4000 subscribers to the Exchange news-room, and for their accommodation it has been thought desirable to establish a refreshment room on an elegant and complete scale.—*Liverpool Advertiser*.

CHANGES IN THE UPPER HOUSE.—The number of peers of Parliament has increased since Jan. 1 by fifteen, and has been diminished by seven. The additions have arisen, first, from creations, of which there have been eight—viz., Duke of Edinburgh, Viscount Halifax, Baron Burrogill Hylton, Lytton, Penry, Romilly, and Strathnairn; secondly, by English titles having been conferred on six Irish peers—viz., Baron Clermont, previously Baron Clermont in the Irish Peerage; Baron Brancaster, previously Viscount Boyne; Baron Hartismere, previously Lord Henniker, M.P.; Baron Keney, previously Earl Dunraven; Baron Monk, previously Lord Monk; Baron Meredith, previously Lord Athlone; and, thirdly, by one peer becoming entitled to take his seat, having attained his majority—viz., the Duke of Hamilton. The Earl of Harrington, who would have become of age this year, died shortly after the meeting of Parliament. The total addition, fifteen peers, makes the number of peers of Parliament, exclusive of thirty spiritual peers, 439; from which must be deducted three peerages which have become extinct—viz., Baron Bayning, Baron Glenelg, and Baron Ponsonby. The changes by succession have further diminished this number by four, the heirs of deceased noblemen being minors—viz., Viscount Clifden (sitting as Lord Dover), Lord Monteagle, Earl Donoughmore (sitting as Viscount Hutchinson), and Lord Rivers. During the year twenty-three peers have died—viz., Marquises Camden and Lansdowne; Earls Bathurst, Chesterfield, Craven, Gainsborough, Harrington, Kinnoul (sitting as Lord May), Donoughmore, Roslyn, Lanesborough, Limerick (sitting as Baron Foxford), and Beauchamp; Viscount Clifden; Lords Bayning, Clinton, Glenelg, Northbrook, Monteagle, Plunket, Ponsonby, Vernon, and Rivers. The Upper House, therefore, at present consists of 402 spiritual and temporal peers.

THE BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER ON RITUALISM.

On Sunday the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol preached a sermon on the ritualistic movement in the cathedral at Bristol. After some few introductory words, in which he spoke of the meaning of the words of his text, "Whose is this image and superscription?" as they were originally uttered, he proceeded to say that he intended to use the same words as the expression of the anxieties which many true hearts are at present experiencing. He asked if the Church of England was still asserting the truths for which her sons had shed their blood; or if she was—at any rate in the teachings of some who were within her pale—passing gradually into new combinations, and preparing to exchange her ancient fixity of principles for change and compromise? Long disused ceremonies and practices were being deliberately introduced. The simple service of the Church was constantly receiving novel and startling additions; and it was plainly avowed that these usages were intended to be expressions of enhancements and developments of doctrine, if not of distinct changes. Whilst noticing this, he could not but observe that there were, to some extent, countervailing considerations. In the first place, the movement was by no means restricted to the spiritual teachers; it was shared in by the Christian laity. Secondly, the men who were looked to as the leaders were men of eminent purity and holy lives, and, in hours of deep need and trial, had shown that they possessed true Christian courage and a deep love for the soul which Christ gave them to save. To these two considerations he would add that the Church was indebted to the men of the new movement for giving a new tone to preaching—for making the sermon what it ought to be, not the mere doctrinal essay, not the mere outpouring of ill-connected thoughts or of merely impassioned words, but home truths set forth and enforced in soul-searching language, and confirmed alike by the witness of Scripture and the inward experiences of the quickened spirit. Looking, on the one hand, to the growing disloyalty to the Prayer-book and the scarcely concealed dissatisfaction with the principles on which it is based, and, on the other hand, to the countervailing considerations which he had specified, he asked what judgment ought to be formed on the movement generally. Before forming any judgment at all, it was necessary to consider the origin and general tendency of the movement. He thought that in it might be seen a reaction from the coldness and neglect of the past, and a plainly-defined antagonism to the still partially lingering influences of the self-satisfied Calvinism of a former day. There was also a righteous repugnance to that disbelief in the supernatural which was such a serious and, he feared, a prevailing characteristic of the present times. He noticed, too—and this with sympathy—that there was in the movement a loyal antagonism to the secretly pervasive Socinianism of these sad days. But what seemed to him the chief feature of this movement was due to the mysteriously increasing desire for unity throughout Christendom. There was much in this desire for union which was noble and holy, but in the form in which it now appeared it involved and carried with it many serious and melancholy consequences. Exactly in proportion as the desire for union increased aversion to what was improperly considered an act of disunion—the English Reformation—would deepen and increase, until clear disloyalty to the protesting Church, long unconsciously felt, would become at last avowed and justified. In expressing his judgment upon the movement, he thought he might say, among other things, that there was a clear desire to supplement the Prayer-book, to rehabilitate the principles of the Reformation, and to modify to some extent that ever recurrent reference to the personal and subjective faith of the individual Christian which was the principle which our forefathers in Christ solemnly vindicated for us, which they illustrated by their lives and their teaching, and which they sealed with their blood. In advising his hearers, as their Bishop, as to what attitude they should assume amid the perplexities which this movement was causing, he would have them take care and not offend by falling short of the plain teaching of the Church and the godly discipline of the Prayer-book. Whilst protesting against addition and modification, they ought not to err by way of defect. Whilst they had their churches closed from Sunday to Sunday, with daily service bidden yet neglected, and whilst there were still infrequent celebrations of the holy communion—in frequent even when it was plainly otherwise ordered—they ought to be careful how they passed mordant comments on others who might exceed the standard. He would have them endeavour, with all heartiness and loyalty, to carry out the principles and practice of the Church, and then God might grant to their example a power of persuasiveness which He might deny to their words.

THE RIVER RIBBLE.

SIXTY years ago an Act of Parliament was obtained by which a company was incorporated for the improvement of the River Ribble, between Preston and the mouth of the estuary at Lytham. Up to this time the channel of the river pursued a most uneven course; it passed through sandbanks and marshy land, and was totally unfit for navigable purposes. By the Act in question nothing but a few jetties were erected for the purpose of deepening the channel near Preston, and a few buoys fixed so as to indicate the course of the river. In 1837 the Ribble Navigation Company was established, and under their auspices the channel was straightened and deepened, and by the co-operation of the Preston Corporation quays, &c., were formed at Preston. But the Ribble, so far as its navigable resources and effects were concerned, made very little satisfactory progress for years; indeed, up to the present period, the company named have only had the most meagre success in their various operations. For upwards of twenty years no dividend worth mentioning has been paid upon their ordinary shares, and for a long period the general shareholders have really got no return whatever for their money. But the labours of the company have not been without benefit. They have reclaimed several hundreds of acres of land on the northern side of the estuary, and if the river does not bring in any return, the land thus saved from the sea will.

A proposition was about twelve months ago made that the reclaimed land should be used as a dépôt for the utilised sewage of Preston; but the suggestion fell through, and subsequently the land was taken by a farming company, and the rent obtained therefrom will constitute a pretty fair source of revenue for the Navigation Company's shareholders. But what seems to be required is the development of the navigable resources of the river. Some time ago a proposition was made that the river should be deepened and that enlarged docks should be made at Preston, the estimated cost being about £40,000. Subsequently, the matter was referred to Messrs. Bell and Miller, civil engineers, of London and Glasgow, and they have just made a report upon the proposed dock accommodation, the deepening of the river, &c. The plans they recommend would involve, if carried out, an expenditure of upwards of £100,000. They suggest that the bed of the river should be considerably deepened in some parts; that the guide walls should be extended a few miles; that these improvements would enable vessels of 1000 tons burthen to sail up to Preston, and that the work might be done for £28,000—a sum much below that which has been expended upon many rivers to make them equally navigable. With regard to the dock accommodation, it is reported that the only means by which vessels can be preserved waterborne in the harbour, and their cargoes properly discharged, will be wet docks, by which the water, with the aid of gates, will be impounded, and vessels kept afloat at almost a uniform level, independent of tidal changes. Preston Marsh would be suited for this purpose; and it is said that a large wet dock, sixteen acres in extent, with a lock entering at an angle from the river, could be made there. A more comprehensive plan than this is, however, named—viz., the conversion of that part of the river now used as the harbour into a dock, and the diversion of the channel of the river westwards. Two plans for affording the requisite dock accommodation are then explained in the report. The first and lesser scheme proposes to give an area of dock accommodation of about thirty-six acres. This would necessitate the diversion of the present channel for about a mile and a half, and the cost of the alterations would be about £74,000. The second scheme proposes to give a dock area of sixty acres, and if it were made the channel would have to be diverted in a straight line for about two miles. The estimated cost of the second scheme is £80,000.

A MAGNIFICENT INFIRMARY.—At a cost of £100,000, a new infirmary of great beauty and extent has been built in Leeds. Before, however, it is devoted to the charitable purpose for which it was designed, a resolution has been agreed upon by influential and wealthy men in Leeds to hold in this building an exhibition of treasures of art, products of industry, and processes of manufacture, on a scale not hitherto attempted in this country. To accomplish this end a guarantee fund of £50,000 was asked for, and Leeds answered by raising £85,000 in a fortnight (more than Manchester raised in a month). It is expected that the fund will reach £100,000.

RED TAPE IN SPAIN.—It is the custom in Spain, after the executioner has performed his office, for him to be surrounded by gendarmes, loaded with chains, and taken to prison, and thence before an examining magistrate, when the following dialogue takes place:—"You are accused of having taken the life of a man." "Yes," answers the executioner; "it is true." "What was your motive for the crime?" "To obey the law and fulfil the mission confided to me by justice." An indictment is then drawn up, and on the following day the man is taken before the tribunal, which immediately pronounces an acquittal, and the prisoner is liberated after his confinement of twenty-four hours.

RITUALISM IN SCOTLAND.—The Bishop of Argyle, in a letter to his Dean, says he "has been much pained in his recent journeys to find the increasing prevalence of the practice of the officiating clergyman performing portions of the Divine service with his back turned towards the people, and accompanying this posture with actions which can have no intelligible meaning but the conception of a creative priestly act, whereby a presence and offering are supposed to be made of the Lord's body, and to which adoration is paid." Dr. Ewing is willing to allow great latitude of custom where no diversity of principle is at stake; but in this case there is not only "diversity, but the assumption of those principles and their symbols to which the Church of England has been in continual opposition since the time of the Reformation, and against which her history, her laws, and the deaths of her martyrs are a loud and pathetic protest." Accordingly, he feels it necessary to interfere, and has given a public intimation of his intention to deal with any clergyman offending in this respect.

MARRIAGES NOT AT CHURCH.

A GENERATION has nearly passed since the Legislature relaxed the law requiring marriages to be solemnised at church, and sufficient time has elapsed to manifest the results of that measure. It came into operation in 1837, and the returns of marriages in England show that in the year 1844 there were still ninety-one in one hundred marriages solemnised in churches; in the year 1854 they had declined to eighty-four; the returns recently issued for 1864 by the Registrar-General give them at seventy-eight. In this last year nine marriages in one hundred were celebrated in Nonconformist chapels, and five in one hundred in Roman Catholic churches; and there stood registered for marriages in England and Wales 5163 churches and chapels not belonging to the Church of England. Among them were 1102 Wesleyan chapels, 1600 Independent or Congregationalist, 1091 Baptist, 602 Roman Catholic. There were in England and Wales, in the year 1864, 8659 marriages in Roman Catholic churches, and 15,627 in Nonconformist chapels. In some districts of South Wales the marriages in Nonconformist chapels are more numerous than those in the Established Church. In England, generally, from the force of habit, the influence of fashion, and the unsectarian character of the Church Service, a large proportion of the Dissenters continue to have their marriages solemnised at church. Whether the normal relation between the number of marriages at church and in Nonconformist chapels has yet been reached time will show. The numbers of the latter class already attained fully justify the legislation of 1836. But along with the authorisation of marriages in registered chapels the Legislature sanctioned also marriages before the registrar without any religious rites at all. The number of these marriages was small at first; in 1841 it was but 2061—not two marriages in 100. But in 1854 the proportion approached five in 100, and in 1864 it was more than eight in 100—one marriage in every dozen (14,611 in all), nearly as many as in Nonconformist chapels. The number may seem large for so religious a country as this; but it is probable that many of the 22,222 persons thus married in 1864 without any religious ceremonial were members of religious bodies, but regarded marriage as a civil contract. The distribution of these marriages over the country is very remarkable. They occur in extraordinary numbers in some districts. The returns are not made for towns, but for districts. In Cambridge these marriages without religious rites were as many as one in seven of the whole number of marriages in 1864; in Oxford, one in six; in Bath, Bristol, Southampton, and Northampton, one in five; in Canterbury and Norwich, one in four; in Plymouth, Stoke Damerel, and Liskeard, one in three; in Exeter, 40 per cent. The large proportion in towns may, perhaps, warrant the inference that the whole number would be greater than it is, but for the influence in smaller places of a public opinion unfavourable to marriages without a religious sanction. In Lancashire and Yorkshire these marriages are not very frequent. In Durham and Cumberland they are so numerous that in the entire counties they amount to one in every four; in Auckland they are 40 per cent of all the marriages; in Carlisle 60 per cent; in Cardiff they are 40 per cent; in Merthyr very little less; in South Wales, as a whole, one in four of the marriages. Seamen and miners avail themselves much of the register offices; and it is stated that some of the people who rarely go to a place of worship would not marry at all if it were not possible to marry so easily. In Carlisle the marriages in the register office are more than double the number of marriages at church, and more than six times as many as the marriages in Nonconformist and Roman Catholic chapels. This is owing to local custom. A class of persons who formerly married on the Scottish side of the Border, attracted by the easy fashion there, have married in Carlisle since the passing of Lord Brougham's Act of 1856 invalidating these irregular marriages in Scotland except after three weeks' residence of one of the parties; but the custom of marrying across the Border without a religious ceremony in church or chapel makes people prefer that mode of marriage which excites least attention. In this part of the country there is a great dislike to marriage by banns, on account of the notoriety it involves, often causing idle lads to congregate and annoy the parties. Lord Brougham's Act has extinguished Gretna-Green marriages, or rather those of Mr. Murray, who kept the turnpike-gate at the Border, for he had almost superseded Gretna by explaining to English visitors that the further journey of two miles was superfluous, as the wedding in his presence on the Scottish side of the Border would be equally valid. He had performed as many as forty-two marriages in one day. In the year 1856 he celebrated 757 marriages. At the close of that year Mr. Murray's occupation was gone.

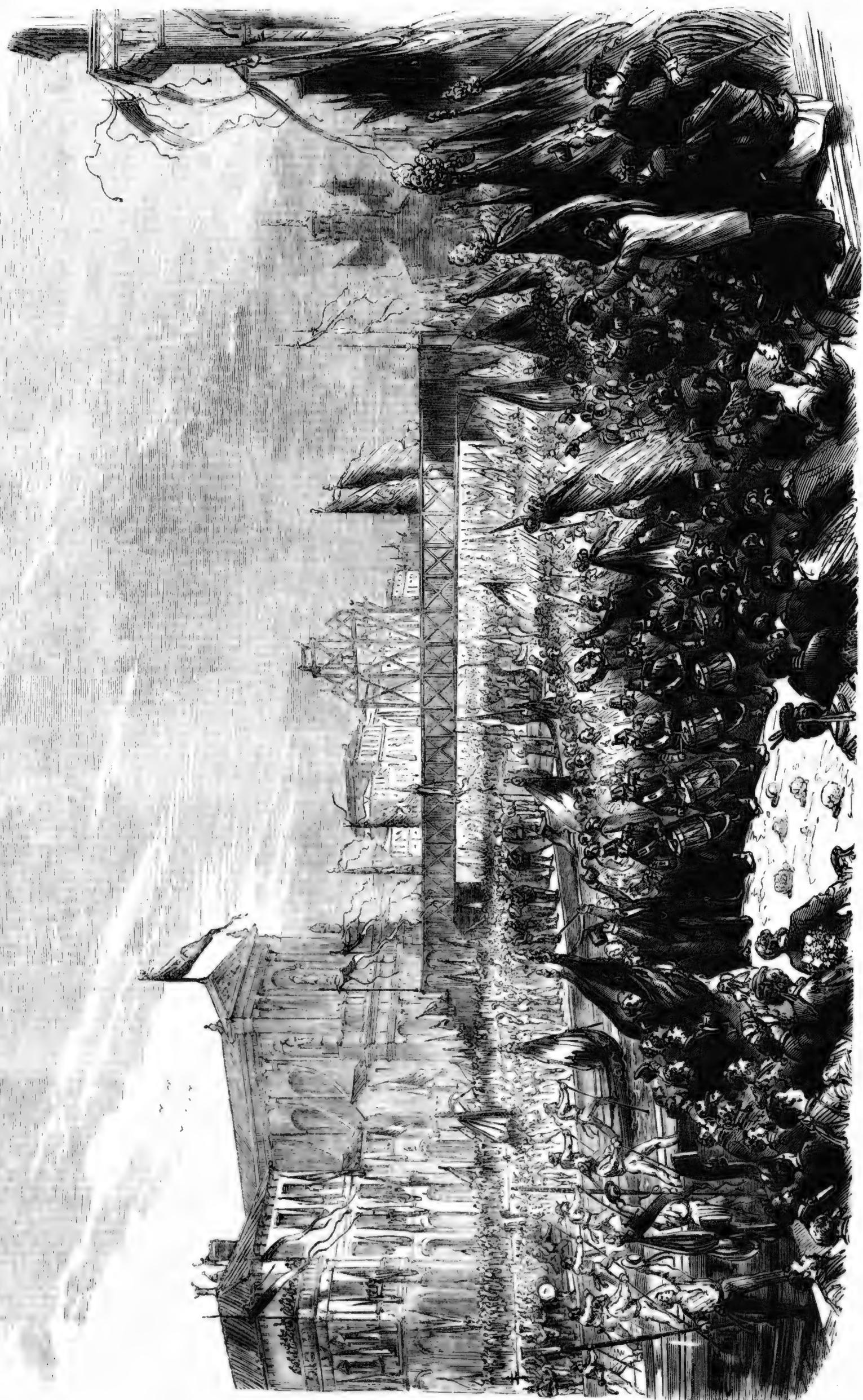
THE LATE SIR J. L. KNIGHT BRUCE, D.C.L., F.R.S., F.S.A.

THE Right Hon. Sir James L. Knight Bruce, whose resignation of the high office of Lord Justice of Appeal in Chancery was announced only a few days ago, died, on Wednesday afternoon, at The Priory, Roehampton, at the age of seventy-five. Born in 1791, a younger son of Mr. John Knight, a gentleman of independent property in Devonshire, by Margaret, the only child and heiress of Mr. William Bruce, a member of the family of Bruce, of Kennet, formerly High Sheriff of Glamorganshire, in which county he possessed a considerable property, the late Sir J. Knight Bruce, then Mr. Knight, was, in 1812, admitted a student of Lincoln's Inn, and in 1817 called to the Bar. After attending the Welsh Circuit for a short time he exchanged the Common Law for the Equity Bar, where his great talents and industry soon secured a large practice. In 1829 he was appointed a King's Counsel, and in 1831 was returned to Parliament for Bishop's Castle—a borough whose very name is probably known to but few of the present generation, and known only to them as having been condemned to disfranchisement by one of the schedules to the Reform Bill. In 1834 he received the degree of D.C.L., "honoris causa," from the University of Oxford.

A Conservative in politics, he was one of the counsel heard at the bar of the House of Lords in 1835 against the Corporation Reform Act, Sir Charles Wetherell being his leader. In 1837, the year in which he assumed the additional surname of Bruce by Royal license, he closed his Parliamentary career by an unsuccessful struggle for the representation of the borough of Cambridge; and in 1841, at the age of fifty, was raised to the Bench as Vice-Chancellor. Ten years later, in 1851, on the creation of the Court of Appeal, Lord Cranworth and Sir J. Knight Bruce were selected as the first Lords Justice. In the following year, upon Lord Cranworth's elevation to the woolsack, Sir George Turner was appointed as his colleague, and Sir J. Knight Bruce became senior Lord Justice, a position he only resigned a fortnight before his death. By the legal profession, among whom his life was passed, and especially by the senior members, who have conducted or argued cases before him for the last quarter of a century, the death of Sir J. Knight Bruce is regarded not only as the loss of an upright and conscientious Judge, but as the removal of one who, uniting an intimate acquaintance with the present to a long experience of the former system of equity jurisprudence, was as profound a lawyer as ever adorned the Bench. His language was lucid and terse, his style strictly classical, his manner courteous and dignified, his virtues, public and private, numerous, and his foibles few. Of his indefatigable energy and capacity for work no better instance can be given than his having, just before the long vacation in 1850, the most pressing period of the legal year, performed the work of three Courts during the illness of the two other Vice-Chancellors, with so much discrimination, ability, and good temper—to use Mr. Foss's words—that a public expression of respectful admiration was elicited from the whole Bar in an address from the Attorney-General.

PLAGIARISM.—We have known of one strong case of plagiarism from the labours of a man, whom we will call A, and who had printed a small book for his own use as a teacher. Some years afterwards he received from a friend of his, B, at a distance, a manuscript, which he, B, told him had been just written by a friend of C, for his use as a teacher, and that he, C, meant to print it, but had submitted it to him, B, for his corrective perusal, and that he, B, should like to know A's opinion of it. A found it to be a verbatim copy of his own little book; and the answer he sent to B was to the effect that he could not recommend C to print it for gain, since he himself had already printed it, and it had not yielded him a shilling of profit.—*Macmillan's Magazine*.

ADAM WAITING FOR EVE.—Shortly after midnight, a few evenings since, two mounted gendarmes at Courbevoie perceived a man sitting on a stone bench in one of the streets of the place, and quite naked. "What are you doing there?" asked one. "You know well enough," was the answer; "I am Adam, the first man, and I am waiting for you to bring me a companion. You may take a rib from me if you wish." The gendarmes saw that he was a lunatic; and, having covered him with some clothes which they managed to borrow, were about to take him with them, when he cried out, "Archangel, the moment has not yet come to drive me from this terrestrial paradise!" Nevertheless, he did not resist accompanying them. The unfortunate man, who is a shoemaker by trade, and twenty-nine years of age, was sent the next day to a lunatic asylum.



ENTRY OF THE ITALIAN TROOPS INTO VENICE.—SEE PAGE 293

THE NEW LORD MAYOR.

BEFORE these lines reach our readers the great civic ceremony will have been commenced. The Lord Mayors, or Lords Mayor, or Lords Mayors—which is it?—retired and elect, will have presented themselves at the Court of Exchequer, where, having listened respectfully to eulogies for past services and anticipatory praises and congratulations delivered by the Lord Chief Baron in the stereotyped phraseology which annual custom renders unavoidable; having taken the usual obsolete oaths and committed a great deal of hard swearing as to the performance of duties which have long been discontinued; having by proxy invited the Barons to the banquet, and adjusted refractory sword-knots and fingered titillating ruffles and mismanaged refractory three-cornered hats, and struggled back through narrow passages to the great gilded coach again, will be borne to the Guildhall, to preside over two or three hundred bowls of turtle, the roasted capons, the barons of beef, the flawns, the custards, the scores of head of game, the fish, the flesh, the fowl, the callipash, the callipee, the marrow puddings, and all the substantial delights of liverymen with appetites and common councilmen with digestions.

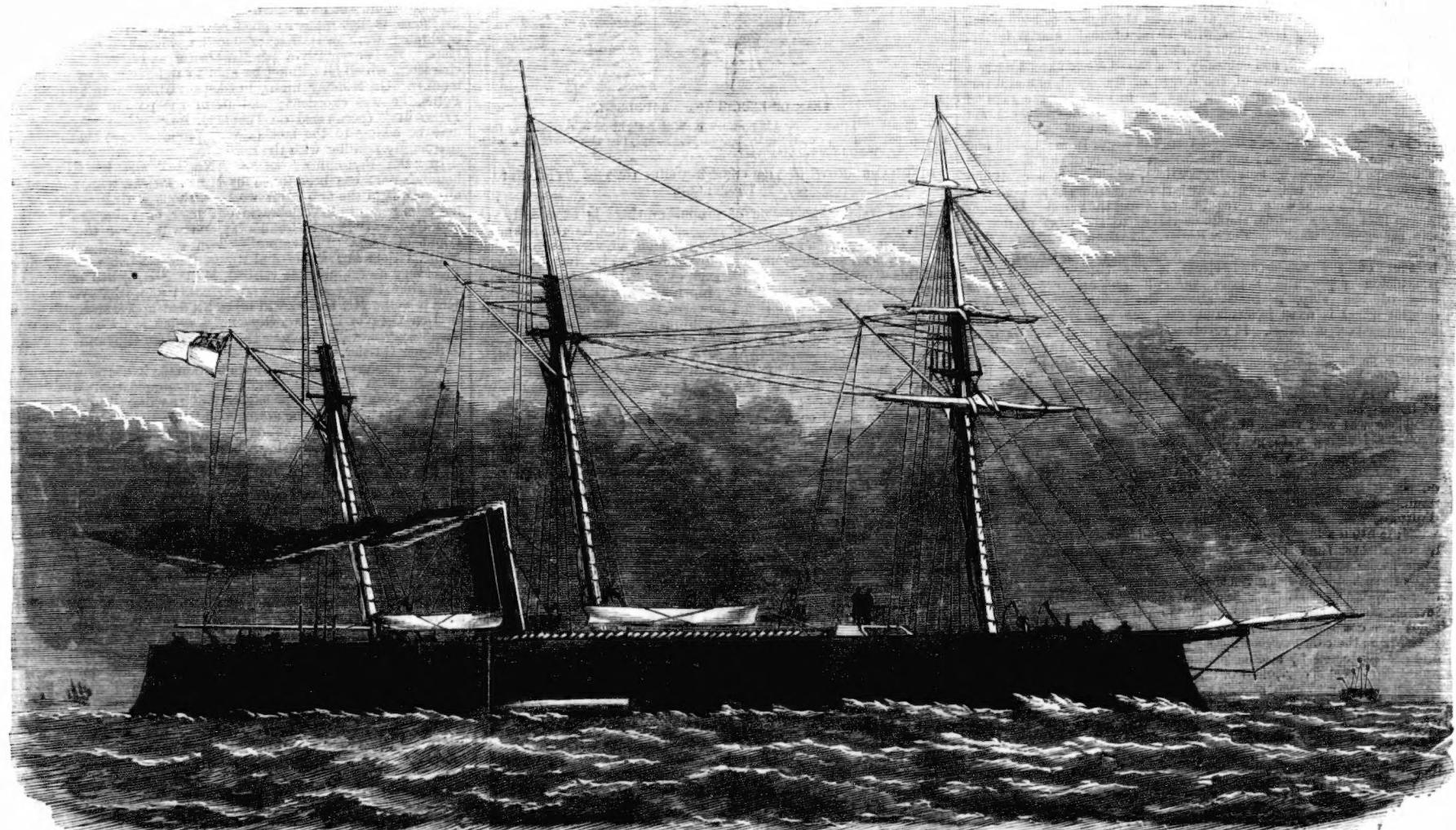
It is pleasant to have to endorse the general opinion that the mayoralty has been worthily upheld, its character well sustained, and its spirit and dignity vindicated by the gentleman who has so ably and hospitably supported the position of "chief magistrate of the chief city of the world" during the past year. It might almost be hoped that a succession of Mayors like Mr. Alderman Phillips would redeem what should be a great official position from the contempt which has sometimes fallen upon it by its committal to less able hands. Not the least part of Mr. Phillips's success has been his genial *bonhomie*, his naïve confidence in his own integrity, and the robust vigour which could regard without dismay a course of banquets, and speech-makings, and meetings, and charitable committees, and active personal efforts for good objects, which, with a whole year of general jollification, might well have dismayed any man less thoroughly in earnest. It is the custom of certain liverymen, wardmen, and councilmen to give expression to audible grumbling at what they call a stingy mayoralty; they take care to let their magnate know their opinions if he does not invite them to the Mansion House often enough, and they are not always reticent in their

comments on the quality of wine and victual—we decline to spell it with a W lest we should be thought guilty of personality. No such complaints can be brought against the retiring Lord Mayor, if we understand the meaning of the constant entertainments which have marked his year of office. But it has been marked by better things than these: by a true regard for the wants of his fellow-countrymen, by a punctual and practical energy of well-doing which, setting an example to others, has raised the Mansion House to the true dignity of being a centre of beneficent work. That quality of earnestness has done its usual work in gathering together other men of high standing in the City to render prompt and efficient aid; and we may hope that such an influence continued for another period would result in raising the character of the Corporation of London by uniting to it men of well-known integrity and ability who have hitherto shrank from accepting office.

Of the gentleman who has just been elected to the highest civic honour we know little, but the little that we do know assures us that he will not lose any opportunity of following up the same good work and cultivating the same hopeful influences. It is not always desirable that a gentleman elected to this position should previously have taken a prominent part in public affairs, unless that part has been unmistakably eminent and useful. Citizens occupied in conducting the elaborate details of a large business have little leisure to become public characters until they are in a position to become candidates for such honours as have been conferred on Mr. Alderman Gabriel, and that position is seldom achieved early in life. It is better, then, that they should be known less from their having taken part in comparatively insignificant local disputes or party discussions than that they should have acquired a reputation for integrity, experience, and genuine benevolence. The opinions expressed by his fellow-citizens accord these qualifications to Mr. Gabriel, and the public have long had an opportunity of observing his kindly and judicious character as a magistrate. At the head of a large business as a timber merchant, and with long experience—for Mr. Gabriel was fifty-five years old on Monday, and has been for many years a member of the Common Council and an Alderman—the new Lord Mayor commences his duties under circumstances which may lead him to anticipate a useful, and therefore a successful, year of office.



THE NEW LORD MAYOR IN HIS OFFICIAL ROBES.



HER MAJESTY'S SHIP WATERWITCH, FITTED WITH RUTHVEN'S HYDRAULIC PROPELLER.

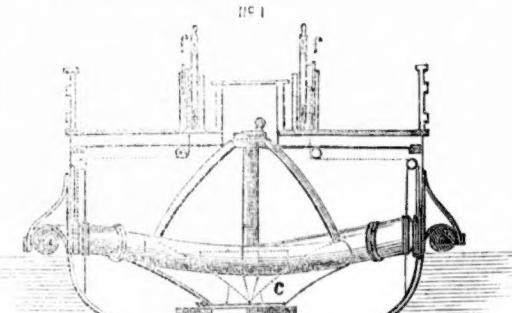
HER MAJESTY'S SHIP WATERWITCH.

It has been said by one of the most eminent of living authorities on marine engineering that there is very little novelty in the idea of propelling vessels by water. This is true in the main, as in 1661 a patent was taken out for an application of the kind, and was followed by many others, but without any marked success being obtained until 1839, when Mr. Ruthven, of Edinburgh, patented a greatly improved application of the principle, which was further improved upon and a new patent taken out by him in 1849. A small boat was constructed and fitted with the Ruthven machinery and placed on the Thames, and a working model of the boat and machinery was also placed in the Great Exhibition building of 1851; but the principle of hydraulic propulsion of vessels was viewed with evident disfavour then by the majority of engineers; the chief objections urged against its adoption being the large amount of rubbing surface the water has to encounter, the cost of producing the propelling power beyond a certain rate, and the liability to choke the perforated bottom of the ship in shallow water, and shut out the water supply. On the other hand, the invention offered the not inconsiderable advantages of a power of propelling the vessel forwards or backwards, or of turning her on her centre, stopping suddenly in her course, going on ahead again or astern, all without stopping or reversing the engines. It is also claimed for the invention that a greater power can be obtained from the same amount of fuel burnt as compared with the paddle or the screw; that the power of the engines is uniform, producing smooth motion with perfect freedom from vibration or noise; no reaction on the machinery with the ship plunging in a heavy sea; an independence of rudder aid in steering or turning a circle; a power of relieving the vessel of any water entering by a leak or shot damage by simply shutting off the ordinary water entrance through the perforated bottom of the vessel's hull, and a complete control over the movements of the vessel by the officer in charge, and on the upper deck by a valve lever without communication with the engineers below, the engines never being required to "ease," "stop," or "reverse," the engineer simply keeping the engines straight at their work, and the officer in charge of the ship controlling the propelling power they create by opening or closing a valve with his lever. The majority of these seemingly somewhat sanguine expectations proved to be correct, but it was 1853 before the first vessel was built and fitted with the Ruthven hydraulic propelling machinery for commercial purposes. This vessel was built partly at the expense of the Prussian Government, and is said to be still running satisfactorily on the Oder. The first independent testimony that we find in this country to the value of the hydraulic propeller lies in the evidence given before Lord Justice Knight Bruce in September, 1863, on the hearing of a petition of Mr. Ruthven, of Greenock, for an extension of the patent granted to his father in 1849, Mr. Andrew Murray, the chief engineer of Portsmouth Dockyard, stating that the Ruthven propeller afforded extraordinary facilities for manoeuvring a ship of war under steam, and he saw no reason why the speed with the Ruthven propeller should not equal that to be obtained with the paddle or screw. Mr. Murray also stated that he had been on official duty to Belgium by order of the Admiralty to inspect and report upon a vessel called the Seraing, built by Messrs. Cockerell, and fitted with the Ruthven propeller. His report was favourable to the principle. Mr. Murray further stated that he considered the principle of so much value that he pressed it on the attention of the Admiralty, and orders were consequently sent down from the Admiralty to Portsmouth Dockyard for the lines of a vessel to be prepared for building, of sufficient tonnage to ensure a full and practical trial of the invention and its suitability as a propelling power for vessels of war. Mr. Murray's evidence thus gives an official history of the causes which originally led the Admiralty to sanction the building of the Waterwitch and the application to her of the Ruthven system of hydraulic propulsion, the first official trial of which by the officers of the Admiralty took place on the 19th ult. in the trial-trip of the Waterwitch down the Thames.

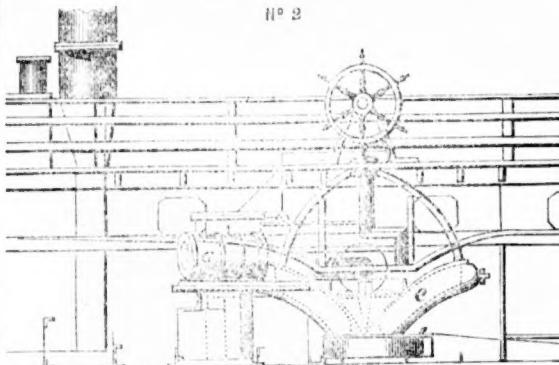
The building of the hull of the Waterwitch was consigned by the Admiralty to the Thames Ironworks and Shipbuilding Company, and the design and construction of her engines and the construction of the enormous turbine wheel, which is the Ruthven propeller, was consigned by the Admiralty to Messrs. John and William Dudgeon. The hull of the Waterwitch is built of iron, of 778 tons measurement; is 162 ft. in length by 32 ft. in breadth, and 13 ft. 9 in. in depth. She is flat in the bottom, broad in her midship section in proportion to her length, and is "double-ended"—fitted with a rudder at each end—similarly to some of the small Thames steamers. Her defensive power as a gun-boat consists in a belt of armour-plating, of $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. in thickness, at the water-line and centrally on her broadside, with walls of iron, or athwartship armour-plated bulkheads, across her upper deck, the object being to fight guns over her deck in line with her keel through gunports in the athwartship bulkheads as well as through broadside ports. The armour-plating is backed with 10 in. of teak, and is further strengthened by the usual inner skin of an iron-built vessel. In the bottom of the vessel, and centrally, is a raised space extending to a good breadth on each side of the centre of the vessel, and still further longitudinally, and which may be termed, for the sake of plainness of description, a long and shallow iron box. The lower side of this box is fitted with an immense number of small rectangular orifices, which give admission to the water from outside and under the vessel's bottom; but the further passage of the water from the box is controlled by four sluice valves, which, it is scarcely necessary to say, are only opened when the machinery is at work and help from the outer water is required to propel the vessel. Divisional plates lead the water from the sluice valves to the next portion of the machinery, which is the "Ruthven hydraulic propeller," or "turbine" wheel, which draws the water in through the bottom of the vessel and ejects it out through the copper propulsion pipes and nozzles through an aperture on each side of the ship, a little above the water-line. The hydraulic wheel is fixed immediately over the four sluice valves and the water-box or canal. It revolves in a cast-iron circular case, 19 ft. in diameter, which has been turned carefully throughout its interior surface, the object of this being to reduce the friction to a minimum point of the water driven over its surfaces. The wheel itself is 14 ft. 6 in. in diameter, and weighs eight tons. It is made of boiler-plate, and is divided into twelve sections by arms or blades fixed vertical and radial (although only vertical at their extreme diameter, forming a tangent from the surface). From their outer edge they begin to alter in shape and position, and at their centre turn spirally, like the blades of a Griffiths' propeller, and thus obtain a "grip" upon the water upon their first suction upon it on issuing from the canal. On the wheel-casing edge, in opposite positions, are two rectangular-shaped discharge pipes, in each of which is fitted a large parallel two-way plug for diverting the water as it rushes from the wheel into the propulsion pipes and thence into the nozzles outside the ship. The copper propulsion pipes have a spiral twist given them to reduce friction in the passage of the water through them, and are about 2 ft. 3 in. by 2 ft. 1 in. interior measurement. The nozzle-pipes on the exterior of the vessel's sides are continued about 8 ft. on each side of the centre, and measure at their discharge-orifices 24 in. by 18 in. They are of brass, and are protected by armour-plating. The driving-power for the hydraulic wheel is comprised in three engines, horizontal and direct-acting, standing to each other at an angle of 120 deg. The connecting-rods from the crank shaft of the wheel are connected direct with the cylinder piston-rods, the latter working in single guide-blocks. The length of stroke of each engine is 3 ft. 6 in., and the diameter of the cylinders 38 in. The three steam-slides are worked by one eccentric, cutting off the steam at about 11-16ths of the stroke; the action being exceedingly good. In every other respect, however, each engine is distinct in itself, having its own throttle and discharge valves; air, feed, and bilge pumps; and the ordinary condenser, with indiarubber foot and delivery valves.

The combined nominal power of the three engines is 160-horse. Steam is supplied to the engines by two ordinary tubular boilers, each containing three furnaces, with 350 brass tubes. The heating

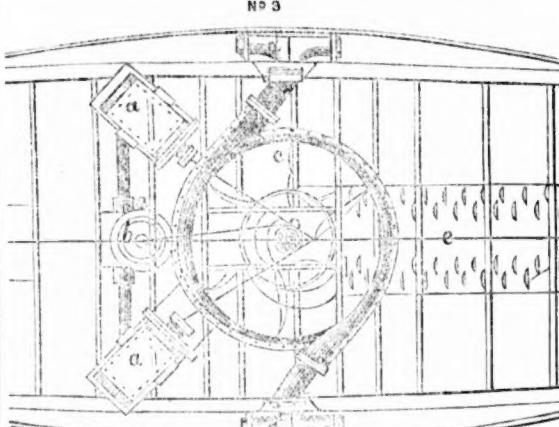
surface per nominal horse-power is 167 square feet of tube surface, and 725 square feet of grate-bar surface. Every part of the machinery is in beautiful proportion to other parts in design, and is as beautifully finished in point of work. The hydraulic wheel and its casing and copper propulsion pipes are all marvels of workmanship. The wheel and casing, as ironwork, reflecting the highest possible credit on Messrs. Dudgeon, the manufacturers. The copper propulsion pipes were manufactured to Messrs. Dudgeon's order by Messrs. G. and T. Blundell, the present representatives of the well-known Downton Patent pump firm, of London. Connected with this part of our notice of the machinery of the Waterwitch it is necessary to state that, in addition to the sluice valves leading to the hydraulic wheel from the perforated box-canal in the bottom of the ship there are also two side sluices which connect the wheel only with the bilge of the ship. These side sluices are intended to pump out any water from the ship's hold—the sea sluice-valves being closed—that may gain sudden access through shot or torpedo holes, or other damage to the ship's hull below the water-line. As it is calculated that, with the engines making forty-five revolutions per minute, the hydraulic wheel would eject 300 tons of water per minute from the ship, the damage done must be of a very extraordinary nature indeed that would sink the ship in spite of the clearing powers of so huge a bilge-pump.



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DIAGRAMS SHOWING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE HYDRAULIC PROPELLER.

In so novel an application of propulsion there is necessarily yet very much to learn, and, as a consequence of this immature knowledge, opinions, even among professional men, are very much divided as to the possible extent of its application and of its working value; and this diversity of opinion has even extended into the question as to the precise point at which the propelling force is first brought to bear upon the vessel. Without, however, entering further upon this subject, we may say that the propelling force brought into action upon the vessel's hull, by the ejection of the water from the hydraulic wheel through the propelling pipes and the nozzles over the ship's sides, is best described by Mr. Ruthven as "similar to the recoil produced by the firing of a gun." In describing this more fully, Mr. Ruthven says:—

Were a gun placed on a line with the keel and fired towards the stern there would result a pressure forcing the vessel forward equal to the force with which the ball left the gun, and if a continuous firing were kept up there would thus result an available propelling force. The water column issuing from the nozzles on the ship's side resembles the ball from the gun and the reacting force which propels the vessel presses on the bent arm of the nozzle in the contrary way to the discharge. With this hydraulic power the propelling force presses directly on the vessel. The paddle and the screw press the vessel ahead by pushing back the water, so that the propelling force acts indirectly on the vessel through the yielding water.

The Admiralty wisely determined, in carrying out so important and costly an experiment, to provide reliable data with which to weigh the results obtained from the Ruthven hydraulic, as fitted in the Waterwitch, against the ordinary principle of screw-propulsion; and for this purpose selected the trial figures of her Majesty's armour-plated, twin-screw gun-vessel Viper, a vessel precisely similar to the Waterwitch in tonnage, displacement, &c.; and in ratio of horse-power of engines to tonnage. The Viper, in her full boiler-power, runs over the measured mile, attained a mean speed of nine knots; and against this rate the speed attained by the Waterwitch, with her hydraulic machinery, has to be placed and considered, as indicating the success or non-success of the system as regards its suitability for the propulsion of ships of war.

The Waterwitch left Woolwich for Tilbury, where the Admiralty officials appointed to watch and report upon the trial were to join her, at 8.30 a.m., on Oct. 29, in charge of Staff-Commander Dillon, her Majesty's ship Fisgard, her draught of water being 9 ft. 8 in. forward and 9 ft. 10 in. aft, the lower lips of the nozzle pipes discharging the water on the outside of the vessel being 8 in. below the water-line. The engines worked almost noiselessly, and with a beautiful uniformity of action, as their three connecting rods whirled round the immense water-wheel up to thirty-nine revolutions per

minute, that being the maximum rate at which it was attempted to drive them between Woolwich and Tilbury. The measured mile in Long Reach was passed at 9.30 a.m., in 6 min. and 20 sec., the speed of the ship being 9.474 knots, with the revolutions of the engines at 39; the pressure of steam, 17 lb.; and the vacuum, 27 in. Tilbury was reached at 13 min. past 10, the time from Woolwich having been 1 h. and 43 min. So far the amount of success obtained was, without doubt, greater than had been anticipated by many of those present—indeed, by all except the patentee and his immediate friends and supporters—and was a favourable omen of the results of the day's trial. In running past the mile in Long Reach the tide was at high water, slack.

Tilbury was left at noon, the officials, &c., then on board comprising Vice-Admiral George Elliot, who may be considered as the main supporter and advocate of the hydraulic principle of propulsion with the Admiralty; Mr. Andrew Murray, chief engineer of Portsmouth Dockyard; Mr. Steel, inspector of machinery afloat to the Admiralty; Mr. Barnes, from the office of the Controller of the Navy; Messrs. John and William Dudgeon, the makers of the ship's machinery; Mr. Ruthven, the patentee of the hydraulic wheel; Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Belcher, Commander S. Brett, her Majesty's ship Vixen, and a number of naval officers and gentlemen interested in marine engineering. The ship's machinery was in charge of Mr. Hammock, managing engineer to Messrs. Dudgeon, assisted by Mr. Hefferman, the engineer of the ship. The vessel was steamed down the river as far as Southend, when, everything having proved to be of the most satisfactory nature, the course was reversed, and laid up the river again, until the Admiralty measured mile in the Lower Hope was reached, when two runs were made, with the conditions and results annexed.

First Run.—A half-knot tide against the ship. Wind, force of three on port-bow; time on the mile, 7 min. 15 sec.; speed of ship, 8.276 knots; revolutions of engines, forty-one; steam pressure, 24 lb.; vacuum, 27 in.

Second Run.—Tide, half a knot in ship's favour; wind, nil; time on the mile, 6 min. 17 sec.; speed of ship, 9.549 knots; revolutions of engines, forty-two; steam pressure, 25 lb.; vacuum, 26 in.; mean speed of the ship in the two runs, 8.912 knots.

As no one, save Admiral Elliott and Mr. Ruthven, probably anticipated a greater rate of speed being attained as a mean rate over the measured mile than seven knots, the rate of 8.912, or, say, in round numbers, nine knots, attained by the Waterwitch must have been a surprise as well as a gratification to all concerned. This very agreeable result, it is but fair to say, is as much due to the unusual excellence of the ship's engines as to the many acknowledged good qualities of the hydraulic system of propulsion. The vessel, with slightly more favourable conditions, which can readily be given her, will certainly make a full half knot in addition to her present rate as attained on her trial-trip; and this half knot may be increased to a full three quarters if she is sent to Portsmouth to complete her trials under the same conditions as is pursued with all other of her Majesty's ships on the Stokes' Bay mile. For instance, the coal burnt on the trial in the Thames was not equal in quality to the coal burnt on the Portsmouth trial water, nor was the stoking of the furnaces—one of the most important points in a trial of a ship's speed—at all approaching to the perfect system of five-feeding carried out at Portsmouth. The trial altogether also suggested many ideas which must yet be practically tested previous to any decided measure of opinion being safely arrived at as to the exact value, or rather as to the exact extent of the value, of the Ruthven principal of hydraulic propulsion. We believe the ship will be further tried on the Thames, on two occasions, at light and deep draught of water, at light draught carrying her discharge nozzles clear above the water line, and at deep draught carrying them completely submerged. At present no one can say which of the two plans would be the best to carry them. After these two further trials have been made the Waterwitch will most probably be sent to Portsmouth to carry out further trials, so as to fully elucidate the merits and demerits of the system.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

MR. MAPLESON, by way of giving the musical public a fortnight's entertainment in the dull month of November, has reopened Her Majesty's Theatre. Already "Faust," "Norma," "Der Freischütz," and "Il Trovatore," have been given. The autumn company consists of the principal singers who were heard at Her Majesty's Theatre this summer, and who during the last few months have been engaged on a provincial tour. Some changes, however, material as well as personal, have been made. Mr. Mapleson has had the proscenium boxes removed and has engaged a new tenor.

The new tenor singer, Signor Morini, was the original Faust, and naturally knows how to execute the music of that part, or M. Gounod would not have intrusted him with it. Perhaps, however, his voice is not quite so good now as it was when M. Gounod's celebrated work was first produced. Signor Morini sings with taste. He is evidently a practised actor, and there are few tenor characters which he will not be able to represent in a satisfactory manner. On Monday night, in the proverbially ungrateful part of Pollio, he was excellent; and if, in the part of Max, in "Der Freischütz" (performed on Tuesday), he was less successful, that may be owing to the fact (a very probable one) that he is not thoroughly familiar with the music.

In "Der Freischütz," as in "Norma" and in "Faust," the heroine's part has been taken by Mademoiselle Titien, who, admirable in all three, is in the two latter works without a rival. Mr. Santley has been heard in his celebrated character of Valentine ("Faust") and Caspar ("Der Freischütz"); and will appear to-night as the Count di Luna ("Trovatore"), with Signor Morini as Manrico, Mademoiselle Titien as Leonora, and Madame Sinico, as Azucena. That very useful and able vocalist, Madame Sinico, has something to do in almost every work that is produced; and, whatever it may be, does it well. Mr. Hohler will make his first appearance this autumn as Don Ottavio in "Don Giovanni," which is to be produced on Wednesday morning next. The part of Don Giovanni is assigned to Signor Gassier.

A good many complaints have been made in connection with the late Norwich Festival. Sufficient accommodation had not, it appears, been provided for members of the press, and the *Morning Post* states that while the arrangements for the Festival were being discussed beforehand, a motion was made not to exclude journalists altogether, which would have been absurd as well as illiberal, but simply to make them pay for their places. Ultimately a compromise was resorted to. It was decided to give the unfortunate men places, but not good ones, and, whether as the result of a formal resolution or from mere carelessness, there was nothing on the cards issued to show that the bearers were entitled to any place at all. Vague and meaningless as a general invitation, they gave authority to go anywhere, which practically signified nowhere. Nothing could exceed the politeness and attention of those stewards who were applied to personally for seats; only seats which, under a proper system, ought to have been reserved, were not reserved. Then as to composers, the rule in England is to give absolutely nothing for the right of producing new music, and the directors of the Norwich Festival were not the men to violate so wholesome a regulation. They even took a step in a contrary direction. Thus, they refused Mr. Sullivan a couple of tickets the night that his new overture was to be performed, and were, in consequence, obliged to allow Mr. Costa to pay for his own seat.

The 1866-7 series of Monday Popular Concerts began on the 5th inst. For the present, we will only mention that at the first concert the principal pianist was Miss Arabella Goddard. The quartet was led by Herr Strauss, and Signor Piatti was the violincellist; second violins, Messrs. Reis and Blagrove; vocalist, Mr. Santley. The novelty of the evening was a new and very effective setting of Scott's song, "A weary lot is thine, dear maid," by Mr. Arthur Sullivan.

MISS BATEMAN, the actress, has been married at New York to Mr. Crow, a London surgeon.

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